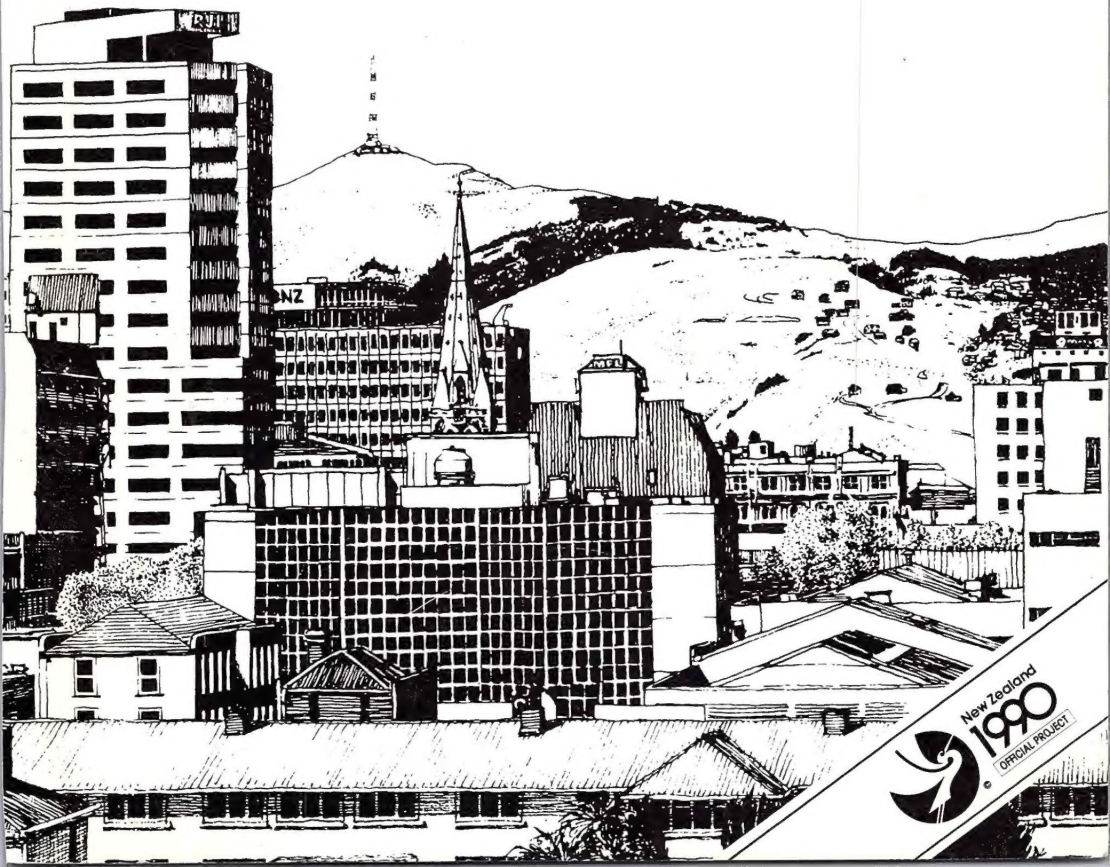


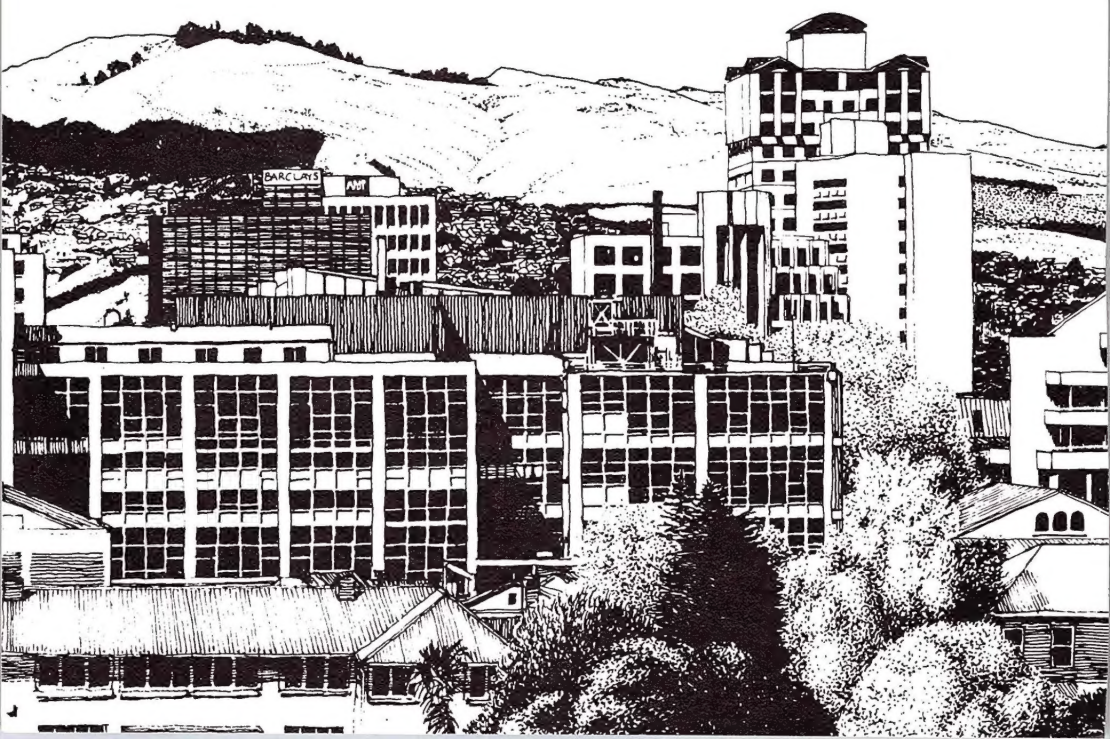
N. Kelly

CHRISTCHURCH CHRONOLOGY

A HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL





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CHRISTCHURCH CHRONOLOGY

A history of settlement

N. Kelly

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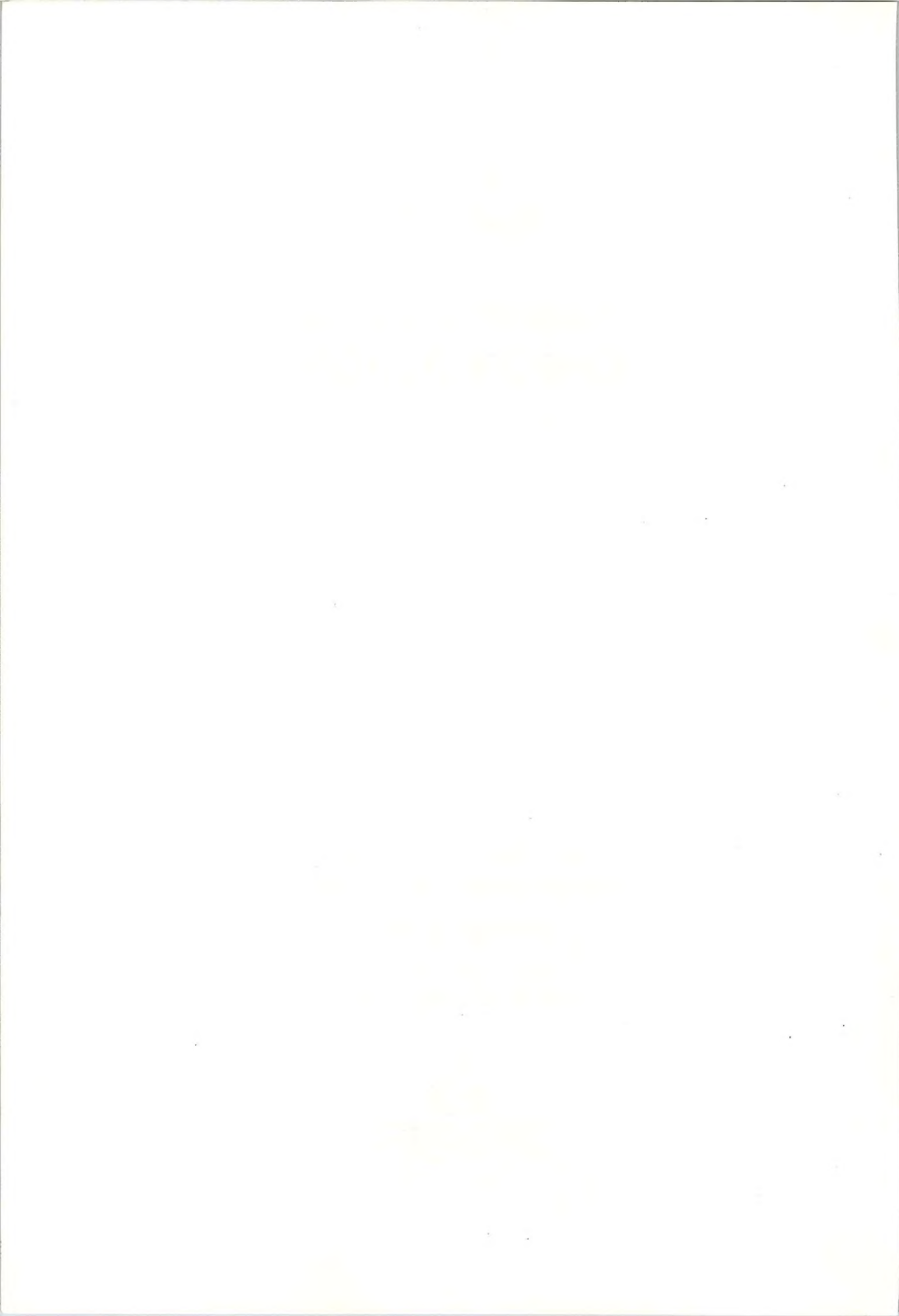
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Planning Policy Unit
Christchurch City Council



CHRISTCHURCH
THE GARDEN CITY

The city that shines



CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

FOREWORD

CHRISTCHURCH CHRONOLOGY was originally prepared in 1983 as a basic resource for internal use in compiling Council publications and reports. It has been updated to 1989 and reprinted as part of the Council's contribution towards observing 1990. It puts into simple form the historical events which have shaped present day metropolitan Christchurch. Some events further afield which have affected this city have also been included. Where known, exact dates are given to enable readers interested in delving further into any topic to go straight to newspaper and magazine sources of the day.

The original chronology was an example of the innovative work of the late John Densem who worked in the Town Planning division of the Council from 1977 to 1984. The assistance given by other officers, by the staff of both the Canterbury Public Library and the Canterbury Museum, and through access to their files, by the "Press" and "Star" newspapers, as well as the former "Lyttelton Times" is greatly acknowledged. Other sources are listed in an appendix.

On reading original drafts, it immediately became apparent to me that this information is too valuable merely to be held on file for occasional use by specialists, and arrangements were made for it to be published in this economical format. The text has been stored on the Council's computer and can readily be corrected and updated. Updating to 1990 has been undertaken by Barbara Flaws and Peter Shapcott.

In spite of our best efforts, there are bound to be errors and omissions, particularly for the middle years of this century which have not so far been fully covered by local historians. Interested readers able to help in improving accuracy are invited to telephone (03) 791-660 extension 8803 or write to:

"Christchurch Chronology"
Planning Policy Unit
Christchurch City Council
PO Box 237
CHRISTCHURCH

You are free to use this material in any way helpful to you, but acknowledgement would be appreciated.



J. H. Gray
CITY MANAGER
September 1990



CHRIST CHURCH CHRONOLOGY:

A history of settlement

1000s

Moa hunting Maoris appear in Canterbury.

1300s

Fires, lit by Moa hunters, destroy Canterbury Plains forest. (This process continued until the 1500s. The original vegetation was largely replaced by open tussock grassland, except for isolated patches of bush such as those which survived at Riccarton and Papanui. Erosion denuded the foothills, and the rivers spread across the plains, burying all traces of the forest. See February 1979.)

Early 1500s

Moa hunted out of existence. (Maori tradition records that the Waitaha tribe migrated from the east coast of the North Island to the Pegasus Bay area during this period.)

Late 1500s

Ngati Mamoe invade and settle from the North Island.

1675 (approx.)

Ngai Tahu tribe begins to move down from the North. (This migration continued until about 1830. The discovery of passes over the Southern Alps led to the establishment of a thriving greenstone trade, and the emergence of Kaiapohia [near Kaiapoi] as an important trading centre for West Coast greenstone.)

1700s

Ngai Tahu settlements exist at several places in Canterbury, including Kaiapohia (Kaiapoi), Rapaki, Ripapa Island, Akaroa and Birdlings Flat.

1770

February 16 Captain James Cook in the "Endeavour" sights Banks "Island" (Peninsula).

1796

October 26 Whaling ship "Mermaid" sights Kaikoura Mountains.

1809

(late) Captain Chase in the sealing ship "Pegasus" gives name to Pegasus Bay, and also becomes the first European to enter Lyttelton Harbour.

1815 (approx)

First Europeans land in Canterbury from the sealing ship "Governor Bligh" (Captain John Grono).

1827

March 23 Edward Gibbon Wakefield, (later to be the architect of the Canterbury settlement), tried and imprisoned in England for abduction.

September Captain William Wiseman, on a flax trading voyage in the "Elizabeth", names Port Cooper (now Lyttelton Harbour).

1825-28 (approx.)

Civil war among the Ngai Tahu. Villages destroyed at Ripapa Island, Tai Tapu and Birdlings Flat. (A feud appears to have halved the Maori population in Canterbury, which previously numbered about 5000.)

1830

January 10 "Antarctic" (Captain Morrell) anchors in Lyttelton Harbour (which he names Cook's Harbour).

May First skirmish between the invading North Island Ngati Toa (led by Te Rauparaha) and the Ngai Tahu at Kaiapohia. Te Rauparaha plans revenge after 8 of his chiefs are killed.

October 29 Te Rauparaha charts the "Elizabeth" (under the unscrupulous Captain Stewart) and sails for Akaroa.

November 6 Te Rauparaha's war party massacres the inhabitants of Akaroa and returns to Kapiti Island with captives and a cargo of human flesh.

1831

June/July Barque "Vittoria" visits Lyttelton Harbour and Akaroa, trading muskets and gunpowder for flax.

1832

(early) Ngati Toa under Te Rauparaha capture Kaiapohia Pa. Only 200 of the 1000 Ngai Tahu inhabitants escape the ensuing massacre by the musket-armed attackers.

Fortress on Onawe Peninsula in Akaroa Harbour captured by Te Rauparaha. The defenders are massacred. As a result of these massacres and the earlier civil war, the Maori population in Canterbury is reduced to only about 500 people.

1833

February (approx) The Otago Chief Tairua mobilises a force of Ngai Tahu. They gather at Lyttelton Harbour, sail north, and defeat the northern tribes near the site of Blenheim. (This skirmishing continued for several years.)

1835

First whaling ships operate from Lyttelton Harbour.

1836

At least 11 whaling ships operating around Banks Peninsula, including the brig "Bee" (Captain George Hempleman.)

1837

March 19 First permanent shore whaling station set up at Peraki Bay, Banks Peninsula, by Captain George Hempleman. (Hempleman and his wife were New Zealand's first German settlers.)

1838

June 8 First French warship, the corvette "Heroine" (Captain J.B. Cecille) arrives in Akaroa.

1839

November 10 Captain William B. Rhodes lands 50 cattle at Akaroa.

1840

European population of Banks Peninsula approximately 80, mostly at whaling stations.

February 15 Chiefs Tairoa, Tuhawaiki and Karetai "sell the South Island" to John Jones and W.C.Wentworth for £500.

April 12 "Sarah and Elizabeth" lands Herriot, McGillivray, Ellis, Shaw (and wife) and McKinnon (with his wife and child) who try to establish a farm at Riccarton. They are the first European settlers on the plains. (see 1841)

May 28 Major Bunbury on HMS "Herald" visits Akaroa collecting signatures of Maori chiefs for the Treaty of Waitangi.

August 9 Captain Langlois in the "Compte de Paris" arrives in Pigeon Bay with 63 French settlers.

August 10 Captain Owen Stanley in HMS "Britomart" dashes to Akaroa and raises the British flag to proclaim sovereignty over the South Island.

August 19 French settlers land at Akaroa.

1841

January First plains settlers (Herriot and party) abandon attempts to farm near the site of Hagley Park.

August Survey ship under Captain E. Daniell sails into the Estuary and up a river (probably the Heathcote).

1842

June 15 William Deans leaves Wellington to look for suitable farmland in the South Island.

1843

February 11 Deans, Gebbie and Manson families sail from Wellington on the "Richmond" to settle at Riccarton.

April Captain Francis Sinclair and Ebenezer Hay and family settle at Pigeon Bay, Banks Peninsula.

June 17	John Deans lands sheep, cattle and horses at Lyttelton.
December 8	Greenwood brothers (James and Joseph) settle at Purau, Lyttelton Harbour.

1844

January 7	First European child (Jeannie Manson) born at Riccarton.
April 5	Frederick Tuckett and a party including surveyors, land at Lyttelton from the "Deborah" looking for a suitable site for a Scottish settlement in the South Island. (They subsequently got lost in the swamps, so it is not surprising that their eventual choice was Otago, not Canterbury.)

1845

May	Gebbie and Manson families establish their own farms. William Tod and family settle with Deans.
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1846

June 27	Canterbury's first armed robbery - 3 men hold up and ransack the Greenwood brothers' farm at Purau.
(no date)	Deans brothers plant Canterbury's first exotic tree (a pear, which is still bearing fruit today).

1847

November	Meeting between Edward Gibbon Wakefield and John Robert Godley in England. (This meeting led to the first plan for the Canterbury settlement.)
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1848

March 21	Canterbury Association formed in London.
March 27	Canterbury Association decides to buy land from the New Zealand Company.
June 12	"Kemp's Deed" signed by Ngai Tahu giving the New Zealand Company control of land from Kaiapoi to Otago.
December 15	Captain Joseph Thomas, William Fox, and surveyors Cass and Torlesse arrive at the site of Lyttelton in the "Fly". Thomas names the harbour "Port Victoria". (He and his party had been sent by the Canterbury Association to choose a site for the new colony and make the necessary preparations for the arrival of settlers in 1850.)

European population about 1000, mostly on Banks Peninsula.

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| March | Marine surveys of the coast, Estuary and harbour by HMS "Acheron". |
| April 20 | Captain Thomas (in a letter to Sir George Grey) reveals that he has chosen the present site of Christchurch for the new settlement (in spite of the fact that both the Nelson and Otago colonists had rejected it in 1841 and 1844 respectively). |
| June 30 | Canterbury's first "industrial action" - Maori road workers in Evans Pass (constructing a road across the Port Hills) go on strike as a reaction to verbal abuse and dismissals. |
| June 30 | New Zealand Company buys the remaining French interests at Akaroa from the Nanto-Bordelaise Company. |
| August 12 | Surveyor Edward Jollie arrives to join Thomas. |
| November 13 | Royal Charter granted for the incorporation of the Canterbury Association. |
| December 12 | New Zealand Company agrees to reserve two and a half million acres as a site for the Canterbury settlement. |
| December | Major Alfred Hornbrook's grog shop (dignified by the name "Mitre Hotel") operating in Lyttelton. (This was Canterbury's first pub, and possibly the first commercial enterprise in the province.) |

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| March 18 | Jollie completes survey and plan of Christchurch. |
| April 12 | John Robert Godley, first leader of the Canterbury Association settlers, arrives with his wife in Lyttelton on "Lady Nugent". He quarrels with Thomas, and departs for Wellington, not returning until November 28. (It appears that he had no intention of settling permanently in the new colony.) |
| April 25 | Canterbury Association settlers meet in London. |
| April | 40 settlers en route to Auckland on the "Monarch" decide to remain at Akaroa. |
| June 15 | Canterbury's first European wedding - marriage of architect Samuel Farr. |
| September 7 | First Canterbury Association settlers sail from Plymouth, England on the "Charlotte Jane", "Randolph" and "Cressy". |
| September 8 | "Sir George Seymour" leaves Plymouth with settlers. |
| December 16 | "Charlotte Jane" and "Randolph" arrive at Lyttelton. |

December 17	"Sir George Seymour" arrives.
December 27	"Cressy" arrives. (These 4 ships brought a total of 773 settlers. Although Cantabrians like to commemorate these "first four ships", there were actually 8 chartered vessels which brought 1500 Canterbury Association settlers in the first few months. By the following December, 19 ships had brought over 3000 settlers.)
December	Anderson's Forge established - the first industry in Canterbury. (The business became Andersons Foundry.)

1851

January 6	The first school (which became Christ's College) opens in Lyttelton.
January 11	First copy of the "Lyttelton Times" (edited by J.E. FitzGerald).
January 28	Fire destroys a large part of Riccarton (Deans) Bush.
January 18	First bank (Union Bank of Australia) opens at Lyttelton.
February	First Avon bridge built - a footbridge at Worcester Street. (It was destroyed in the 1868 flood.)
February 7	"Castle Eden" arrives with settlers. (There had been trouble on the voyage, and her crew was arrested and imprisoned for mutiny.)
February 11	Land Office opens in Christchurch on the site now occupied by the Chamber of Commerce building.
March 1	"Isabella Hercus" arrives with settlers.
April 16	First sale of Christchurch town sections.
May 3	George Gould opens shop in Christchurch. (The business eventually became part of Pyne Gould Guinness and Co.)
May	Ferrymead ferry service begins.
June 21	Road from Christchurch to Riccarton completed.
June 21	Christchurch Cricket Club formed.
June 9	"Steadfast" arrives with settlers.
June	"Duke of Bronte" arrives with settlers.
June 22	Pioneers Edward and Henry Ward drowned in Lyttelton Harbour. (A brother, Crosbie Ward, later became the city's best known satirical poet.)
July 20	First church in Christchurch opened - later dedicated as St Michael and All Angels in 1859

July 23	Pioneer William Deans among 28 lost in the wreck of the "Maria" in Cook Strait. (Godley had tried to deprive the Deans and Hay families of their farms because he wanted only Anglicans to own land in the new settlement. The Deans brothers had sold sheep to pay the legal costs of fighting Godley's high handed action, and William Deans was travelling to Sydney to buy replacement stock.)
July 27	Storm wrecks 6 ships in Lyttelton Harbour.
September 13	Meeting held to discuss the establishment of a Jockey Club.
September 27	First Avon drowning reported. (The victim was drunk. The river claimed 105 lives in the first 50 years of settlement. A high proportion of the victims were drunk.)
October	"Canterbury" arrives with settlers.
November 15	White Hart Hotel (possibly the city's first) in operation.
December 16	Anniversary celebrations in Hagley Park. First organised sport, including horse races, athletics and a cricket match.

1852

January	First bees introduced into Canterbury (from Nelson).
(early)	Australian gold rush lures prospectors from Canterbury. (The exodus of young men caused a labour shortage which was to hinder the new settlement for three years.)
March	First Papanui bridge (now Victoria Bridge) built.
April 26	Christ's College moves from Lyttelton to Christchurch.
June	New Zealand Constitution Act provides for provincial self government. (As a result, the Canterbury Association resolved to cease as from September 30.)
July 16	Choral classes begin in Lyttelton.
August	Rabbits introduced on the "Samarang" to Lyttelton.
November 6	First Canterbury sitting of the Supreme Court at Lyttelton.
December 16	Anniversary celebrations include the first horticultural exhibition.
December	Godley returns to England.

1853

February 21	Inwoods flour mill in operation in Straven Road.
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February 28	Provincial boundary defined by proclamation. Westland (then called West Canterbury) included as part of Canterbury.
July 18	First meeting of the Christchurch Horticultural, Agricultural and Botanical Society.
July 20	J.E. FitzGerald elected first Superintendent of the Province of Canterbury.
September 14	"Ann" arrives in Lyttelton, the first steamship to visit the port.
September 27	First meeting of the Provincial Council.
(no date)	Christ's College pupils play a form of rugby, the first in New Zealand.

1854

March 19	Commission appointed to report on road, sea and railway access between Lyttelton and Christchurch.
June 23	Pioneer John Deans dies at Riccarton. (The preservation of Deans Bush was one of his dying wishes.)
December 2	Canterbury Jockey Club formed (the first in New Zealand).

1855

March 15	Sheepstealer James McKenzie arrested and imprisoned at Lyttelton. (He subsequently escaped and was recaptured several times, and was conditionally pardoned on January 11, 1856.)
March 31	Weld and Clifford pioneer the inland stock route to Marlborough.
April 17	Formation of the Canterbury Local Steam Navigation Co.
April 25	Coal from the Malvern Hills on sale in Christchurch at £5-10s a ton.
October	Provincial Council decides to sell the Christchurch town reserves to help its ailing finances. (Contrary to popular belief, the reserves were never intended as a "green belt", but were to be kept in reserve until sections in the central area were sold.)
(no date)	Hagley Park declared by provincial ordinance. (It appears to have been planned by Captain Thomas at the request of the Deans brothers to create a barrier between the Deans' farm and the new city.)

1856

March 15	Christchurch Club formed.
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March 27	First wool cargo shipped to London from Lyttelton (via Auckland).
July 31	By Royal Charter, Christchurch becomes New Zealand's first city.
March 6	Riccarton race course established.
(no date)	Riccarton House built.

1857

February 8	St Andrews Presbyterian Church opens.
March 17	First vehicle crosses the Port Hills - a spring cart pulled by bullocks negotiates the Bridle Path.
June 19	Complaints reported that the Avon and Heathcote Rivers are becoming clogged with watercress. Provincial Council approves £1500 for clearance. (Watercress appears to have been introduced by the ship "Compte de Paris" to Akaroa in 1841, and from there to the Avon by William Deans in 1850.)
July 23	First dramatic presentation in Canterbury. (Mrs Foley in "The Loan of a Lover" and "Betsy Baker" at the Lyttelton Town Hall.)
August 24	Evans Pass road over the Port Hills opens.
August	First daily post, Christchurch to Lyttelton, begins.
October 1	First Christchurch Town Hall opens. (This privately owned hall was built on a site in High Street which was later occupied by Stranges Department Store and then by Butterfields.)
October 30	Tunnel advocate William Sefton Moorhouse elected as the provinces's second Superintendent. (He resigned in 1863 because of personal financial mismanagement, but later served a second term of office from 1866 to 1868.)
November 26	Opening of the first building (long since demolished) on the present Christ's College site. (The school's original planned site was in Cathedral Square, but the land had been exchanged for the present Hagley Park site to allow room for expansion.)
(no date)	First circus, Foley's Victorian (or Royal American) Circus performs in High Street site. (Foley was the some-time husband of Mrs Foley the actress. See July.)
	Last of Papanui Bush felled.
	New Zealand's first reaping machine imported to Riccarton.

1858

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| April 24 | Contract let for fortnightly mail service between Christchurch and Timaru. |
| May 4 | Last of the town reserves sold. |
| (no date) | First brewery in operation. |
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1859

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| April 7 | Canterbury Rifles organised - the first military force in the Province (formed as a result of the Taranaki land wars) |
| May 26 | Public Library begins as the Mechanics Institute in Town Hall. |
| August 19 | Chamber of Commerce established in Lyttelton. |
| December | Canterbury Municipal Ordinance passed. (However, it failed to receive the assent of the Governor of New Zealand. A revised ordinance succeeded in March 1861.) |
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1860

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| January 27 | Writer Samuel Butler arrives at Lyttelton on "Roman Emperor". (He is best remembered for the novel "Erewhon", published after his return to England several years later.) |
| November | Volunteer Fire Brigade formed. |
| December | First town clock and tower arrives—in 147 packages. (The clock and iron tower, commissioned by the Provincial Government, was not erected as originally planned. Presented to the City in 1876, it was eventually placed at the corner of High and Manchester Streets in 1897 for Queen Victoria's jubilee. In 1930, it was moved to its present site in Victoria Street.) |
| (no date) | Canterbury Musical Society formed. (After several changes of name, it became the Royal Christchurch Musical Society in 1920. It is the oldest continually operating choral group in New Zealand.) |
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1861

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| May 20 | Gold discovered in Gabriels Gully, Otago. (As with other discoveries, the ensuing gold rush depleted the city of its more adventurous young men.) |
| May 23 | Fire destroys brewery and shops in Cashel Street. |
| May 25 | "Christchurch Press" appears. (The first editor was ex-Superintendent James FitzGerald, a bitter opponent of the |

	proposed Lyttelton-Christchurch railway tunnel. He and supporters began the paper to air their views.)
July 17	Work begins on the railway to Lyttelton. (Preliminary work on the tunnel had begun in January 1860, but the original contractors had withdrawn in November.)
October 17	Christchurch Club building opens. (Designed by B.W.Mountfort and Isaac Luck, it was probably New Zealand's first club.)
December	Provincial Superintendent petitioned by 227 householders to proclaim a municipal district.
(no date)	New Zealand's first rowing club formed. (It became the Canterbury Rowing Club in 1862.)
	Canterbury (or "New") Music Hall opens. (Built by the Musical Society, it was soon nicknamed "the Barn". The site was in Gloucester Street, opposite the present Theatre Royal.)

1862

	City's population approximately 2000
January 1	New Zealand's first rowing regatta held on Lyttelton Harbour.
March 3	First meeting of the Christchurch Municipal Council (which became the Christchurch City Council in November.) John Hall elected Chairman, G. Gordon first Town Clerk.
June 1	Hospital opens on site in Hagley Park. (But only after the first vigorous "Hands off Hagley" protests by irate citizens.)
June 9	Municipal Council approves first street lighting (62 kerosene lamps).
July 1	New Zealand's first telegraph in operation between Christchurch and Lyttelton.
July	New Zealand's first professional boxing contest held on the banks of the Waimakariri River near Kaiapoi. (Police with drawn pistols tried to stop the illegal contest, but were overwhelmed by the crowd of over 600. Subsequent legal proceedings were quietly withdrawn when it was found that the Crown Solicitor and several magistrates had been among the spectators.)
(no date)	Artesian water discovered. (Water found during the tunnel excavation had indicated that artesian water was likely to exist below Christchurch.)

1863

February 10	First sitting of the Court of Appeal.
March 5	Samuel Bealey elected third Superintendent of Canterbury.

March 31	21 Canterbury military volunteers sail north on "Phoebe" for duty in the Waikato land wars.
May 5	Christchurch Gas Company formed.
June 23	First cab stand in City, on the corner of Colombo and High Streets.
July 9	Civic tree planting begins. (Part of the day's planting was a commemorative tree, generally regarded as the beginning of the Botanic Gardens.)
September 7	City's first murder trial. G. Lumley convicted.
October 22	First Agricultural and Pastoral Association show in showgrounds (which is now Sydenham Park). (An "unofficial" show had been held in October, 1862.)
October 26	Chamber of Commerce transfers from Lyttelton.
November 10	First Cobb & Co. coach to Timaru.
November	Provincial Government commission tables critical and far-reaching education report. (This report led directly to the opening of the first public schools in the following year.)
December 1	Opening of the Ferrymead to Moorhouse Avenue railway, New Zealand's first public steam railway. (The gauge was 5ft 3ins.)
December 26	Opening of the Royal Princess Theatre, the city's first true theatre. (It had been the Canterbury Music Hall, see 1861.)
December	First patients at Sunnyside Hospital.
(no date)	Total Abstinence Society formed - the beginning of the New Zealand temperance movement. (The City's crime and drink problem was one of the worst in New Zealand during these years.)
	Aulsebrooks biscuit factory established.
	"Brother's Pride" arrives at Lyttelton with 44 fever deaths during the voyage - the worst ever of any ship to Canterbury. (The hapless survivors were quarantined under very primitive conditions at Camp Bay.)

1864

February 8	George Parr's "All England" cricket team defeats a Canterbury side.
February 10	First Council artesian well drilled at the corner of Tuam and High Streets. (It gushed to a height of 3 or 4 metres above ground level.)

March 17	Arthur's Pass crossed by Arthur (later Sir Arthur) Dudley Dobson. (He became the Christchurch City Surveyor in 1901.)
March 21	New Zealand's first hansom cab arrives in City.
April 18	First Ferryroad (swing) bridge opens.
April 25	Canterbury Horticultural and Acclimatisation Society formed. (This group introduced many animals, birds and fish to Canterbury, and helped to establish the Government Gardens, which eventually became the Botanic Gardens.)
June 4	Serious fire in Colombo Street destroys buildings between Hereford and Cashel Streets.
August	City Council's "Committee on Swans" decides to import black swans to try and control the watercress in the Avon. (The swans, duly introduced, departed almost at once for distant lagoons and marshes.)
September 16	Opening of second Town Hall, built of stone next to the first hall in High Street.
September 28	Re-built Victoria Bridge opens. (It is probably the country's first iron and stone bridge.)
October 7	Opening of a 12 night season of Lyster's Royal Italian and English Opera Company. (The opera was "Lucia di Lammermoor.")
December 16	Foundation stone laid for Christchurch Cathedral. (The weather was atrocious.)
December 24	First gas street lights.
December 25	Durham Street Methodist Church opens - the City's first stone church.
December	Census population of Christchurch City (excluding Lyttelton) 6,438.

1865

January 24	Steam fire engine arrives, (the first in New Zealand) and is named "Extinguisher".
February	Gold discovery on the West Coast leads to an inevitable exodus of prospectors from Christchurch.
March 1	Godley Head lighthouse in operation.
April 8	First issue of "Punch in Canterbury". (It was modelled on the English magazine, but did not survive for long.)
May 3	First Catholic school opens in a small cottage in Lichfield Street.

May 21	First news telegram sent over the new line from Bluff to Christchurch.
July 1	Severe thunderstorm. Man killed by lightning at Avonside.
July 1	Lyttelton Harbour breakwaters begun.
September 19	South Island Separation Bill defeated in Parliament by 31 votes to 17.
November 21	Provincial Council buildings in Durham Street completed. (The complex of buildings was architect B.W. Mountfort's masterpiece. He had survived a professional disaster soon after arrival in New Zealand when his first building, a church in Lyttelton, had proved structurally unsound and had to be demolished.)
November 30	Canterbury Medical Association formed (the first in New Zealand).
(no date)	Railway to the west and south begins. First public swimming pool opens at Kohler's Pleasure Grounds (now the site of Hagley High School). P. and D. Duncan's engineering works established.

1866

	The city has 56 hotels to cater for the thirsty population of approximately 6500.
February 6	Telegraph to the West Coast (Hokitika) opens.
March 20	First Cobb & Co. coaches to the West Coast.
March 23	Road to the West Coast officially opens.
April	City Council virtually bankrupt because of a ratepayers protest led by William Wynn-Williams. (Street lights were turned off, Council workers dismissed and night soil collection cancelled.)
May 21	City Council abandons the vital city drainage scheme because of its financial state. (A huge shipment of pipes which had just arrived from England had to be sold off. This guaranteed Christchurch's reputation as New Zealand's most polluted and unhealthy city for another 20 years. It is interesting to compare the transport cost of these pipes from Glasgow to Lyttelton - £882 - with the cost from Lyttelton by lighter and cart to Christchurch - £400!)
May 28	George Dobson (brother of Arthur Dudley Dobson) murdered by the Burgess and Kelly gang in the Southern Alps. (The gang mistook him for a gold courier.)

May 30	Moorhouse elected as Provincial Superintendent - his second term of office.
June 4	Refurbished Royal Princess Theatre re-opens as the first Theatre Royal.
August 16	Cook Strait cable service links North and South Islands.
October 13	Railway south open to Rolleston.
November 6	Serious fire on the north-east corner of Armagh and Colombo Streets.
December 2	Moa bones discovered at Glenmark. (The international sale and exchange of these helped Haast, the Canterbury Museum's first Director, to finance the new museum.)
(no date)	Christchurch and Nelson chess clubs compete by telegraph, one of the first uses of this method in the world.

1867

January 1	Roller skating rink opens. (Proprietor Richard Kohler had previously operated Kohler's Pleasure Grounds.)
January 10	European birds introduced on "Matoaka" to Lyttelton. Species include pheasants, partridges, blackbirds, thrushes, linnets, skylarks, chaffinches, and starlings. (The destruction of native insect eating birds by hunting and fire had caused disastrous crop infestations in Canterbury.)
April 16	First traction engine imported into Canterbury by the Provincial Government. (It was hoped to pull "road trains" of grain shipments, but trials were a failure.)
July	Fire prevention ordinance specifies building materials for central city developments.
July 30	"Great Canterbury snowstorm" begins. (Although no accurate records are available, this may have been heavier than the record 1945 fall. Over 500,000 sheep and cattle died in Canterbury and Otago.)
August 6	Unveiling of the Godley statue in Cathedral Square New Zealand's first public statue. (However, the statue's inscription acclaiming him "founder of Canterbury" is possibly over generous. Wakefield should at least share the title.)
September 21	Trout introduced from Tasmania. (The ova were reared in special covered ponds built in Hagley Park next to the hospital. Salmon were introduced a year later.)
December 3	Canterbury Museum (New Zealand's first) opened to public in an upstairs room in the Canterbury Provincial Government Buildings. The collection had been assembled by Julius (later Sir Julius) Von Haast. See 1872

December 9 Lyttelton railway tunnel opens, the first in the world to be drilled through a volcano rim. It was New Zealand's first tunnel, and at the time was described as one of the longest in the world, yet had been planned and financed by this tiny colonial settlement whose population was just over 9000, (6,647 in Christchurch and 2,510 in Lyttelton.)

1868

February 4-5 Severe storm and gales. Several ships wrecked, floods throughout Canterbury. Waimakariri River overflows into the Avon causing serious flooding. Water flows a metre deep in Market Square (now Victoria Square).

May 14 "Lyttelton Times" publishes evening paper, the "Star".

May 22 William Rolleston becomes the fourth (and last) Superintendent of Canterbury. (The 4 superintendents have been remembered in the names of the city's "four avenues", previously called the Town Belts.)

June 10 William Wilson elected first Mayor of Christchurch.

August 16 Tsunami ("tidal wave") in Lyttelton Harbour. (Part of the harbour bottom was laid bare, then a wave swept in, damaging the "Novelty".)

(no date) Fire sweeps across the Port Hills. (It took 2 weeks to burn out.)

1869

April 22 Visit of the Duke of Edinburgh (New Zealand's first royal visitor).

June 9 Earthquake damages many buildings including the stone (second) Town Hall.

June 28 Velocipede ("boneshaker") bicycle (probably New Zealand's first) tried out on City streets by its maker, coachbuilder Henry Wagstaff.

December 16 Anniversary celebrated by the first "boneshaker" bicycle race - from Latimer Square to the railway station and back.

1870

February 8 Opening of Christchurch's first art exhibition.

October 1 Opening of Canterbury Museum building, designed by B.W. Mountfort.

October 24 Disastrous fire (New Zealand's most extensive to that date) destroys the centre of Lyttelton.

December 26	First rowing regatta on the Avon.
December,	National railway gauge chosen as 3ft 6in. (Existing 5ft 3in lines in Canterbury were subsequently re-laid in the new gauge. See 1877.)

1871

January 9	"Park Terrace" murder. (Manservant Simon Cadeno was later hanged for murdering a woman servant and injuring another.)
January 16	Meat preserving works opens.
June 26	Christchurch Volunteer Police enrolled.
December 1	First rose show.

1872

April 27	Railway north open to Kaiapoi.
May 2	New St Michael's Anglican Church opens.
June	City's heaviest frost -14.9 deg C (Still a record)
August 15	Novelist Anthony Trollope visits.
December 16	First Interprovincial Exhibition opens.
(no date)	German, Scandinavian and Polish settlers arrive on the "Friedelburg".
	Museum begins excavations at Moa Bone Point, Redcliffs.

1873

January 27	Christchurch Domains Board constituted.
January	New Zealand Shipping Company registered in Christchurch.
February 19	Anglican synod decides (by a narrow margin) not to sell the present site of Christchurch Cathedral.
March 20	Death of pioneer doctor and photographer Dr.A.C. Barker.
April 2	First and second Town Halls destroyed by fire. (It took 99 years to replace this civic amenity.)
April 19	Christchurch Golf Club formed. (The first course was in Hagley Park. There are now nearly 30 golf courses in and around Christchurch, making it New Zealand's golfing capital.)

December 1 Westland becomes a separate province. (It had already become a separate county on January 1 1868.)

1874

May 30 First rugby match played.

June 2 The "Press" publishes an evening paper, the "Globe" to compete with the "Star". (It became the "Telegraph", then the "Truth", then "Evening News". Publication ceased in May 1917.)

June 15 Canterbury College (University) opens. (A subsequent public protest prevented its proposed buildings from being sited in what are now the Botanic Gardens.)

October 23 Canterbury Club building (designed by Frederick Strouts) inaugurated.

November 18 Addington saleyards open.

1875

January 29 Kaiapoi Woollen Mills founded.

April 30 New library building completed on the corner of Cambridge Terrace and Hereford Street. (Designed by W.B. Armson, the building is now part of the Library Chambers.)

(no date) F.T. Haskins begins record 26 years as Town Clerk.

Typhoid epidemic (which lasted until the following year) causes 152 deaths in City. (Death rates from "Christchurch fever" [typhoid fever, scarlet fever and diphtheria] were much higher than the national average throughout this period, but had fallen dramatically by 1882 because of much improved public health measures and the long delayed building of a sewerage system.)

1876

City population approximately 12,000.

January 4 First meeting of the Christchurch Drainage Board.

February 4 Railway south completed to Timaru.

April 6 Birth in Christchurch of Harold Williams. (He was to become one of the world's greatest ever linguists, speaking 28 languages fluently.)

April 13 Visit of tightrope walker Blondin.

November 1 Provincial Government abolished. (The 9 provinces were replaced by 64 counties under the first Counties Act.)

November 4	Second Theatre Royal opens. (Built in only 17 weeks on the same site as the first, the new theatre was claimed to have the largest stage in New Zealand.)
December 23	Lyttelton time-ball station in operation. (Its time signals to shipping were superseded by radio signals in 1934. See also 1978.)
(no date)	Blackheath Place built in Sydenham. (It is the city's only surviving example of English style terrace housing. Terraced houses called "The Bricks" were built in Cambridge Terrace in 1903, but were demolished in 1968 to make way for the new Town Hall.)

1877

January 8	First trial of harvesting machines at Riccarton.
January 17	Council swimming pool in the Avon River opens. (Not one of the Council's better projects - the pool was only a few hundred metres downstream from the hospital's effluent outfall.)
January 18	First meeting of the Lyttelton Harbour Board.
February 23	Lillywhite's "All England" cricket team visits.
May	The Normal School (designed by Samuel Farr, and opened in April 1876) becomes New Zealand's first teachers training college.
June 7	New Canterbury College (University) building opens. (Designed by B.W. Mountfort, the building is now part of the Arts Centre.)
August 11	Canterbury Cricket Council formed.
September 13	Christchurch Girls High School (designed by Thomas Cane) opens on the corner of Hereford Street and Rolleston Avenue. (The school moved to its present Cranmer Square site in 1881. The original school is now part of the Arts Centre.)
October 25	First high pressure water supply system in operation at Lyttelton.
October 29	Sydenham Borough formed.
December 20	70 kilometres (44 miles) of railway line north to Amberley converted from broad to narrow gauge in a single day by 500 men - in time for the opening of the railway station the following day.
December 21	New Christchurch railway station opens.
(no date)	Police duties taken over by Government.

1878

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| August 4 | Severe snowstorm over the South Island. |
| September 6 | Railway to Dunedin officially opens. |
| (no date) | Andrews and Beaven founded. |

1879

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| March 3 | First Town Hall design competition. (But building costs were too high and the project was abandoned in March 1882.) |
| March 25 | New Zealand's first telephones in operation in City. |
| April | Pioneer Bicycle Club formed. (It later became the Pioneer Sports Club. A recent gift of \$230,000 from the club assisted the construction of Pioneer Stadium in 1978.) |
| July 11 | Post Office building in Cathedral Square completed. |
| July 26 | Canterbury Rugby Football Association (New Zealand's first) formed. |
| September 3 | Canterbury Industrial Association formed (now the Canterbury Manufacturers Association). |
| September | Permanent sewer construction under way. |
| December 26 | Serious Catholic/Protestant riot in Manchester Street. |

1880

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| March 1 | School for the Deaf (now Van Asch College) opens in Sumner. (Director Gerrit van Asch introduced oral teaching methods to New Zealand.) |
| March 9 | First steam trams begin operation from Cathedral Square to the railway station. |
| April 17 | First championship cycle meeting, Hagley Park. |
| April 17 | Inter-city brass band contest (New Zealand's first) and choral competition draws an audience of 2500 to the Drill Hall. (The winner was the Invercargill Garrison Band.) |
| July 8 | Canterbury Society of Arts formed. |
| July 19 | Lincoln College opens - the first agricultural college in the Southern Hemisphere. |
| July | Industrial Exhibition opens. |

November 11	Christchurch Amateur Swimming Club formed (the first in New Zealand).
(no date)	Sarah and Alfred Rudkin begin small factory. (It eventually became Lane Walker Rudkin.)

1881

January	First century in first class cricket scored by G. Watson for Canterbury.
May 18	Christchurch Boys High School (designed by W.B. Armson) opens in Worcester Street. (The school moved to the present Straven Road site in 1926, and the old building is now part of the Arts Centre.
September 24	Telephone exchange (the first in New Zealand) begins operation.
October 15	Lancaster Park opens. (This privately owned development was built so that sports clubs could charge admission fees to games.)
November 1	Christchurch Cathedral (still uncompleted) dedicated.
November 24	St Albans Borough formed.
December 5	Earthquake damages Cathedral spire.
December	Canterbury Frozen Meat Company formed.
(no date)	Ceremony in the Provincial Chambers confers degrees on Helen Connon (later Mrs McMillan Brown) and Kate Edger, the first women university graduates in New Zealand. (Edger was the first assistant of Christchurch Girls High School, and Connon was shortly to become headmistress.)
Christchurch	Lawn Tennis Club formed. (Its first courts were in Cranmer Square.)

1882

January 20	First drainage pumping station in operation. (This was the beginning of New Zealand's first sewage farm.)
April 10	Joubert and Twopeney's New Zealand International Exhibition opens in South Hagley Park. (The exhibition, complete with an educated pig and an armless lady drew a total attendance of over 250,000 until it closed on July 15.)
June 8	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals formed in City.
June 19	First trials of electric lighting at Lyttelton wharves.
September 13	Woolston Town Board formed.

October 28	Linwood Town Board formed.
(no date)	Antigua Street boatsheds open.

1883

January 3	Graving dock in Lyttelton Harbour officially opens.
January 26	New Zealand Shipping Company begins direct steam service to the United Kingdom.
February 16	Belfast Freezing Works (the first in the Christchurch area) begin operation.
March 20	Sumner Town Board's first meeting.
March 30	Two young boys die of exposure on the Port Hills. (Monuments can still be seen near the Rapaki Track.)
April 8	First shipment of frozen "Canterbury lamb" leaves Lyttelton for the United Kingdom on the "British King".
May	Woolston (now Skellerup Woolston) Brass Band formed.
December 7	Second Industrial Exhibition opens.

1884

June 26	New Zealand's first First Aid examinations held in City.
July 24	YMCA building opens on the site of the present Police Station.

1885

April	"Russian scare" leads to building of gun emplacements around Lyttelton Harbour.
May 8	Strike in boot factories.
September 2	Public meeting of 25,000 (possibly the country's biggest to that time) in Hagley Park in support of the proposal to build a railway to the West Coast (the Midland Line).
October 10	Life insurance fraud ("The Case of the Severed Hand") at Sumner. (The perpetrator, Arthur Howard, was sentenced to 2 years prison on April 11 the following year.)
December 22	Statue of William Moorhouse unveiled in the Botanic Gardens.
(no date)	Bells Baths built at Sumner.

1886

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| May 14-15 | Flooding in city centre. |
| May 29 | First trotting meeting held at Lancaster Park. |
| November 5 | New Zealand Kennel Club inaugurated in Christchurch. |
| (no date) | First New Zealand swimming championships held in City. |
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1887

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| January 10 | Tramway to New Brighton completed. |
| February 14 | Telephone link to Dunedin opens. |
| March 24 | First City Council offices open. (This building at the corner of Oxford Terrace and Worcester Street was designed by S.Hurst Seager. It was the first public building in Christchurch to break with the prevailing tradition of Gothic, Classic or Venetian style. It is presently tenanted by the Canterbury Promotion Council.) |
| July 6 | Heavy floods. 3 young men drown in the Avon River as a result of a boating mishap. |
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1888

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| September 1 | Earthquake causes damage throughout City. Cathedral spire badly damaged. |
| September 29 | South Island rugby team plays Lillywhite and Shrewsbury's English team at Lancaster Park. |
| (no date) | Tramway to Sumner completed. |
| | Fort Jervois built on Ripapa Island (as a result of the 1885 "Russian scare"). |
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1889

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| September 11 | Cave and Maori artifacts discovered at Moncks Spur. |
| December 1 | First New Zealand-built locomotive completed at Addington railway workshops. |
| (no date) | Canterbury labour unions form Trades and Labour Council. |

1890

March	Ernest (later Lord) Rutherford enrolls at Canterbury University. (His later work paved the way for the development of atomic energy, yet he once said "We cannot control atomic energy to an extent which would be of any value commercially and I believe we are not likely ever to be able to do so".)
May 30	Richmond joins City.
June 21	Artist Petrus Van der Velden arrives and settles.
August 16	First inter-provincial soccer match held in Christchurch. (Canterbury beat Wellington 2-0)
August 28	"Great maritime strike" (the first of New Zealand's 3 major waterfront strikes) spreads to Lyttelton.
September 8	Striking watersiders attack and injure scab labour.
(no date)	Christchurch team wins first New Zealand polo tournament in Auckland.

1891

January 13	First public display in New Zealand of Edison's phonograph.
January	10 metre Maori canoe dug out of Avon.
March 26	New Zealand's first agricultural conference held in City.
May 11	Sumner Borough formed.
October 29	General Booth of the Salvation Army visits.
December 25	Foundation stone laid for the "Temple of Truth" - (but the sect was a fraud - see 1897.)
(no date)	Nursing school established at Christchurch Hospital.
	City's first electric lighting in the store of J. Ballantyne and Co.
	Visit by writer Rudyard Kipling.

1892

January 25	African explorer H.M. Stanley visits.
(no date)	Atlanta Cycling Club (the first women's cycling club) formed.
	First New Zealand water polo championships held in City.

1893

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| February 22 | Linwood Borough formed. |
| July 27 | Woolston becomes a Borough. |
| November 28 | Women vote for the first time in parliamentary elections. |
| (no date) | £200,000 bankruptcy (and subsequent criminal proceedings) of solicitor Leonard Harper and Company. |

1894

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| January 18 | New Brighton pier opens. |
| February 15 | First New Zealand cricket team defeated by New South Wales at Lancaster Park. |
| February | High pressure water supply system in operation at Sumner. |
| March 22 | First "local option" poll fails to achieve liquor prohibition in Christchurch. |
| October | Decision to build 45 by 10 metre swimming pool at Lancaster Park. (Although the pool was equal to any in New Zealand, and hosted the 1907 Australasian swimming championships, it was never a popular success and was closed down within a few years. See 1985) |
| December | New Zealand Cricket Council formed in City. |
| December | Internationally famous English climber E.A. Fitzgerald makes much publicised preparations in Christchurch to climb Mt Cook but is beaten by 3 young New Zealanders. (Piqued, Fitzgerald refused to set foot on the mountain.) |
| (no date) | Ernest Rutherford transmits New Zealand's first radio waves in his basement laboratory at university. |

1895

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| April 23 | Regular Lyttelton - Wellington Cook Strait ferry service inaugurated by "Penguin". |
| November 17 | Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens) visits. (He described Christchurch as a town where half the people rode bicycles and the other half were kept busy dodging them.) |
| (no date) | Heavy snowfall kills 350,000 sheep in Canterbury. |
| | Bicycle Band formed. |

1896

- January 2 Australasian Amateur Athletic and Cycling Championships held at Lancaster Park.
- April 13 City hosts the first meeting of the National Council of Women.
- November 7 First commercial screening of "Edison's Cinematograph".
- (no date) Serious gorse fires in Linwood.
- District Nursing Association formed by Nurse Sybilla Maude.

1897

- January 14 New Brighton declared a Borough.
- June 21 Huge celebrations for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee include the official opening of Victoria Park on the Port Hills, and the transformation of Market (Victoria) Square by the City Council and the newly formed Christchurch Beautifying Association. (The square, once the commercial centre of Christchurch, had contained many early public buildings and services including a prison, immigration barracks, an animal pound and the first post office. See 1903 for change of name.)
- September 26 Reading of the Riot Act to an angry crowd of about 6000 in Lichfield Street as a result of religious imposter A.B. Worthington's "Temple of Truth" fraud. (Beginning in 1890, Worthington's sect had built a "grecian temple" in Latimer Square.)
- November 4 Night cycle races held at Lancaster Park. (The experiment was not a success - the gas illumination was completely inadequate.)
- (no date) Council by-law restricts cyclists to a speed of 8 miles per hour. (The "bicycle boom" was at its peak about this time.)
- First Metropolitan Cycle Show held in City.

1898

- January 14 "Great Peninsula Fire" destroys much of the bush on Banks Peninsula.
- February 9 "Black Wednesday" - Canterbury skies darkened by smoke from Australian bush fires.
- February 26 First Australasian swimming championships held in City.
- March 20 "Horse fiend" strikes at Halswell. (The "fiend" killed several horses over a period of time, including 2 valuable stallions in 1899.)

(no date) X-ray equipment installed at Christchurch Hospital.

1899

- March 11 Railway accident at Rakaia kills 4 and injures 22. (The 2 trains which collided were crowded with Islington freezing workers returning from an excursion. The accident led to dramatic improvements in railway signals, braking systems and safety equipment.)
- October 5 First Boer War contingent leaves Lyttelton.
- October First car imported to the South Island by Nicholas Oates. (See also 1900)
- November 2 Balloonist "Captain" Lorraine lost at sea after an ascent from Lancaster Park.
- November 6 Addington Raceway holds inaugural meeting.
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1900

- September 53 room McLean's mansion completed in Manchester Street - the largest private house ever built in New Zealand. (It was originally called "Holly Lea".)
- November 1 Canterbury Jubilee Exhibition opens in the new Canterbury Exhibition Hall, Manchester Street. (see 1924)
- (no date) First sealed street (part of Cashel Street) built.
- Nicholas Oates (see 1899) receives the City's first motor traffic violation for frightening a horse with his newly imported motor car.
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1901

- April H.R. Smith begins 23 years as Town Clerk.
- June 22-24 Visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. (Later King George V and Queen Mary.)
- November 16 Earthquake (most severe at Cheviot) damages Cathedral spire. (Again! After this third incident, the top of the spire was re-built in timber and metal instead of stone.)
- November 29 Captain Robert Falcon Scott's first Antarctic expedition arrives at Lyttelton in "Discovery".

1902

- March 24 Professor Bickerton sacked from university. (The charismatic and controversial professor of chemistry had been the college's first appointment in 1874. He was ostensibly fired for mismanagement of his department, but was in fact a brilliant teacher whose star pupil was Ernest Rutherford. The real reason for his sacking seems to have been his socialist politics and his outspoken criticism of that venerable institution - marriage. See also 1929.)
- June 2 Municipal refuse destructor in operation. (The destructor chimney, by the present site of the MED, was a dominant city landmark for many years.)
- July 4 New Zealand Boxing Association formed in City.
- November 16 Antarctic relief ship "Morning" arrives at Lyttelton.
- (no date) New Zealand Hockey Association formed in City.
- Plague hospital (which became Burwood Hospital) built at Bottle Lake.
- First national boxing championships held in City.

1903

- January 22 Christchurch Tramway Board (now the Christchurch Transport Board) holds its first meeting.
- February 20 Singer Madam (later Dame) Nellie Melba gives concert.
- April 1 Sydenham, Linwood and St Albans amalgamate with City to form greater Christchurch. Henry F. Wigram becomes Mayor.
- May 25 Statue of Queen Victoria unveiled in Market Square, and the area is renamed Victoria Square.
- July 18 Heavy snow in Canterbury.
- July 25 City Council generates Christchurch's first public electricity from a generator driven by the municipal refuse destructor. (This eventually led to the formation of the Municipal Electricity Department, which was derived from the City Engineer's Department in 1925)
- August 17 City abattoir opens at Sockburn.
- September 4 Canterbury Automobile Association formed.
- November 1 Christchurch to Invercargill rail express service begins.

1904

- March 31 New Zealand's first coin-in-the-slot postal franking machine on public trial in Christchurch.
- May 16 Motor bus service to Timaru begins.
- June 27 Yaldhurst School elects New Zealand's first all-woman school committee.
- September 19 Concert by pianist Jan Paderewski. (He later became Prime Minister of Poland.)
- November 11 Christchurch Cathedral completed. (Architect George Gilbert Scott)

1905

- February 12 Catholic Cathedral (the Basilica) opens. (Designed by F.W. Petre, it is widely regarded as the finest Renaissance building in New Zealand.)
- May Royal Exchange building (now the Regent Theatre) opens. (The building boasted the city's first passenger lift.)
- June 6 First electric trams in operation. (Unique in Australasia, they had front fenders as a safety feature because of the density of cycle traffic in Christchurch.)
- June 24 Railway derailment at Chaney's, near Kaiapoi, kills 2.
- July 13 Construction of King Edward barracks begins. (The building was completed in an amazing 25 days. In the absence of a true Town Hall, it was often the venue for large concerts and civic occasions.)
- December 16 Christchurch's Bob Deans scores "the try that wasn't" in Wales on the first All Black tour of the United Kingdom. (The All Blacks "lost" only this game 3-0. Deans died of pneumonia in 1908, aged 24.)
- December 26 Automobile Association holds a "Great Automobile Gymkhana" at Addington trotting grounds. (30 cars took part, and the programme included New Zealand's first official car race.)

1906

- January 21 Hailstorm causes widespread damage.
- May 26 Statue of William Rolleston (outside the Canterbury Museum) unveiled.

May	Hon. Sir John Hall, first Council Chairman (see 1862) and former Premier of New Zealand, recalled to be Mayor in Exhibition year.
September 1	First Timaru to Christchurch cycle race.
November 1	New Zealand International Exhibition (the biggest in the country to that time) opens in Hagley Park. (Over 1 million people visited the exhibition during the next few months. A branch railway line was built across North Hagley Park to service the exhibition. The attractions included New Zealand's first professional symphony orchestra [conducted by Alfred Hill], and the first Dominion pipe band contest which was won by the Dunedin Highland Pipe Band.)
November 2	Foundation stone laid for the Technical College (now Christchurch Polytechnic).
(no date)	South Island Landless Natives Act gives some new reserves to the Ngai Tahu. See 1920, 1989.
	City's first state houses built in Sydenham.

1907

February 4	Serious fire on the Port Hills. Victoria Park plantation destroyed.
March 10	Foundation stone laid for the Cashmere sanatorium. (Poet James K. Baxter was an undistinguished employee in the 1940s.)
April 1	Beckenham and Fisherton join City.
May 14	Fire seriously damages the Antigua Street boatsheds.
July	First meeting of the Christchurch Fire Board.
December 14	First Plunket Shield cricket match at Lancaster Park. (Auckland defeated Canterbury.)
(no date)	McCormacks Bay causeway built. (This was for trams only. It was widened for motor traffic by unemployed labour during the depression of the 1930s. See 1937.)

1908

January 1	Shackleton expedition sails for Antarctica in "Nimrod". (A crowd estimated as high as 50,000 watched the departure - probably the largest in Lyttelton's history.)
February 6	Stranges fire destroys buildings in High, Cashel and Lichfield Streets. (Stranges Department Store was New Zealand's biggest in the early days of this century. The early morning blaze spread to the DIC, Ashby Berghs and the White Hart Hotel. Damage was over 300,000, New Zealand's worst to that date.)

February 25	Theatre Royal opens. (This is the building which exists today, the third to bear the name.)
May 11	Colosseum becomes the city's first picture theatre. (The building was claimed to have the largest wooden span in New Zealand. It had previously been a skating rink, a boot factory and a cab stand. See also 1932.)
May 14	Municipal tepid baths in Manchester Street open. (It was described as "the finest indoor swimming pool in Australasia".)
July 7	Widespread flooding in city and province.
September	Christchurch Canal League formed to agitate for the building of a canal and port in the Avon-Heathcote Estuary.
November 28	Work begins on the Summit Road, the first part of Harry Ell's obsessional dream.
(no date)	New Zealand's first boy scout patrol organised at Kaiapoi.

1909

February 17	30 metre whale stranded at Okarito. (The skeleton is now on display at the Canterbury Museum.)
February 22	New "Press" building in operation in Cathedral Square. (Designed by J.J. Collins and R.D. Harman, it was the city's first ferro-concrete building.)
March 4	Te Wai Pounamu Maori Girls College established at Ohoka. (The college moved to Christchurch in 1921.)
June 13	Cafe Continental Hotel at Sumner destroyed by fire.
June 21	City's high pressure water supply in operation.

1910

February 21	Visit by Lord Kitchener.
May 19	Halley's Comet visible by telescope in night sky. Prophecies of doom and superstition abounded while the comet was visible.
August 3	Canterbury Croquet Association (New Zealand's first) formed in City.
August 22	Ilam homestead (on the site of the present university staff club) destroyed by fire.
September 12	G.W. Skellerup founds Para Rubber Company, New Zealand's first retail rubber goods business at 175 Manchester Street. (Christchurch soon became the centre of the rubber industry in New Zealand.)

- November 26 The ill-fated second Scott expedition leaves Lyttelton on the "Terra Nova", bound for Antarctica. See 1988.
- (no date) Government roading incentive (£10,000 per county) causes the dismemberment of Selwyn County from the Waimakariri to Rakaia Rivers, and the formation of 10 new counties - Waimairi, Paparua, Heathcote, Ellesmere, Malvern, Springs, Wairewa, Akaroa, Mt Herbert and Halswell.

1911

- April 1 North Linwood added to City.
- April 1 Spreydon Borough formed.
- July 30 Over 40,000 people brave wet, cold weather to attend the funeral of Mayor T.E. Taylor (whose 6 weeks in office is the shortest on record).
- December 23 George Bolt flies a glider from the Port Hills.

1912

- January 1-3 Davis Cup final (Australasia v USA) held at Lancaster Park.
- January Independent tribunal reports against the Estuary canal and harbour scheme. (This report virtually ended many years of heated discussion and lobbying over this issue, although the idea was not finally laid to rest until the decision was made to build the road tunnel.)
- April 3 Lyttelton dredge "Manchester" leaves port for new owners in Sydney. (The ship and her crew disappeared without trace during the voyage.)
- May 30 First netball match in City.
- October 31 Opening of Queen's Theatre, the city's first purposebuilt picture theatre. (The building is now the M.W. Arcade.)
- December 28 First New Zealand croquet championships held in City.
- (no date) First free kindergarten (the "Sunbeam Kindergarten") opens in St Albans.

1913

- January 1 Riccarton Borough formed.
- February 10 News reaches Christchurch of the Scott expedition's fate. (The city's special relationship with the expedition caused deep mourning over the tragedy.)

October 31	National waterfront strike affects Lyttelton.
November 5	"Battle of Featherston Street" in Wellington as strikers try to stop racehorses being shipped to Christchurch.
November 25	700 "specials" (special constables enlisted mainly from farming districts) occupy Lyttelton to allow "free" labour to work the wharves. (In spite of this provocative action, there was no serious violence in Christchurch or Lyttelton throughout the strike.)
(no date)	First New Zealand inter-collegiate rowing championships held on the Avon River. (The schools taking part were Christ's College, Christchurch Boys High School, Waitaki Boys High School and Wanganui Collegiate.)

1914

February 6	New evening paper, the "Sun" appears. (This independent paper caused a sensation in the newspaper industry because of its modern style and lavish use of illustrations.)
March 6	First point to point flight in Canterbury by J.W.H. Scotland from Timaru to Christchurch. (In the same year, Scotland had the dubious privilege of becoming the first pilot to crash in New Zealand)
April 3	North Richmond joins City.
August 24	Large patriotic procession boosts war fever.
September 23	First Canterbury contingent sails on "Tahiti" and "Athenic" from Lyttelton for the war in Europe.
November 2	Riccarton (Deans) Bush presented to the city by the Deans family.

1915

February 3	Canterbury Battalion sustains New Zealand's first casualties of W.W.I at Suez Canal.
April 1	First regular supply of electricity from Lake Coleridge received in Christchurch.
April	Christchurch pilot, William B. Rhodes-Moorhouse, killed in action in Europe. (He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, the first ever to be given to an airman)
May 9	Christchurch tennis star (4 times Wimbledon champion) Captain A.F. Wilding killed in action in Belgium.
May	First electric street lights in operation.

July 17	First Canterbury wounded from the war return to Lyttelton on the "Willochra".
December 20-21	Canterbury Battalion among the last to leave Gallipoli. (The battalion suffered 385 dead during the campaign.)
(no date)	Worker's Educational Association (WEA) formed in City - the first in New Zealand.

1916

February 23	Red Cross Society (N.Z. Branch) and the Central Council of the Order of St John hold their first meeting in Christchurch.
September 20	Canterbury Aviation Company founded by Henry (later Sir Henry) Wigam.
October 2	Opawa joins City.

1917

February 9	Scott statue (sculpted by his widow) unveiled opposite the (then) Municipal Offices in Oxford Terrace.
March 20	Avonside and St Martins join City.
May 7	Canterbury Aviation Company makes first flights from Sockburn Aerodrome, New Zealand's first airport.
May	Mrs A. Wells becomes Christchurch's first woman City Councillor.
June 9	Sign of the Kiwi opens.
December	Canterbury Exhibition Hall in Manchester Street burned out.

1918

March 21	First meeting of the Canterbury Progress League (now the Canterbury Promotion Council).
July 22	After heavy snow - 175mm (7inches) - Christchurch experiences its coldest day on record. (The temperature did not rise above 1 deg C.)
September	Count Felix von Luckner imprisoned on Ripapa Island.
November 6	Beginning of the influenza epidemic which was eventually to kill 466 people in Christchurch.
November 8	Huge crowds gather in streets after false reports of World War I armistice. (The Canterbury Battalion' losses in the war had been 2353 dead.)

November 12 Armistice officially announced. (But this time, there was little public celebration in a city now stricken by the full effects of the 'flu epidemic.)

1919

Metropolitan population reaches 100,000.

February 1 New Zealand's first commercial aviation accident. Chief instructor C.M. Hill killed in crash of a Canterbury Aviation Company biplane near Riccarton racecourse.

1920

May 13-15 Visit of Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII).

August 25 First flight over Cook Strait (Christchurch to Trentham) by Captain Euan Dickson in a Canterbury Aviation Company plane.

(no date) Professor James Shelley appointed to Education Department, Canterbury University. (He became the first Director of Broadcasting in 1936, and was one of the most important figures in the encouragement of drama and adult education in New Zealand.)

Government commission recommends compensation of £354,000 to Ngai Tahu for loss of land. (However, successive governments refused to act, and the money was never paid.) See 1920, 1989.

1921

January 31 New Zealand's first regular airmail service begins between Christchurch, Ashburton and Timaru.

February 15 Radio Society of Christchurch formed.

April 1 Spreydon Borough joins City.

July 30 Canterbury becomes the first New Zealand provincial rugby team to defeat the Springboks.

November 1 Woolston Borough joins City.

(no date) Concert by violinist Jascha Heifetz.

1922

March 1 Addington School Committee presents a special certificate to Cecil Hughes for 8 years attendance without missing a day (probably a New Zealand record).

July 10	Hagley Park and Botanic Gardens included in city boundary.
November	Great Exhibition opens.
(no date)	Christchurch swimmer Gwitha Shand sets world record for the women's 440 yard freestyle. (She subsequently twice lowered her own record.)

1923

April 1	Bromley and Papanui join City.
June 14	New Zealand permanent Air Force established at Sockburn as the Government takes over the Canterbury Aviation Company. (Included in the take-over was Sockburn Aerodrome, which was re-named Wigram a few days later.)
August 4	Railway to the West Coast opens. (The much delayed opening of the Otira tunnel on June 18, 1918, had prevented earlier completion of the line.)
August 11	Christchurch Radio Society begins regular radio transmission with station 3AC.
(no date)	Faith healing Hickson mission draws thousands to Christchurch Cathedral.

1924

January	Southerly gale causes widespread damage.
July 19	New Zealand Miniature Rifle Association (now Smallbore Rifle Association) formed in Christchurch.
July 26	Open air classrooms in use at Fendalton Primary School.
September 1	New City Council offices in Manchester Street open. (The first of the Council's 2 recycled office buildings, this had been the Canterbury Exhibition Hall, gutted by fire in 1917.)
November 11	Bridge of Remembrance opens.
December 3	Children's Library opens in Hereford Street.
(no date)	Polio epidemic (lasting until 1925) kills 27 people in Canterbury. Closure of Quail Island leper colony, New Zealand's last.

1925

March 7	Cholmondeley Home for children (a gift of Hugh Heber Cholmondeley) opens at Governors Bay.
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April 29	Rev J.K. Archer becomes Mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand's first Labour mayor.
August 22	Radio Broadcasting Company of N.Z. incorporated in Christchurch - the country's first public radio company. (The company became the major force in early radio, eventually owning and operating a chain of YA stations throughout the country. See 1932)
(no date)	Concert by violinist Fritz Kreisler.

1926

March	Radio station 3YA begins transmission. (At first, the station was operated by the old Radio Society for the Radio Broadcasting Company of N.Z.)
May 29	New Zealand's first sports broadcast - a rugby match from Lancaster Park. (Commentator Allan Allardyce was soon to pioneer broadcasts of racing, cricket and hockey for station 3YA. He also gave live coverage of Kingsford-Smith's landing at Wigram in 1928.)
May	Vertical aerial photos taken of the complete city area for the City Council. (This was probably the country's first aerial mapping.)
December	Rewi Alley leaves Christchurch to settle in China.
(no date)	Bishopscourt building (designed by Cecil Wood) opens. G.M. Keys pioneers vocational guidance in New Zealand for the YMCA in Christchurch. Ballerina Anna Pavlova performs. South Island's first railcar (an Edison battery unit) in operation through the Lyttelton tunnel.

1927

March 12-15	Visit of Duke of York (later King George VI).
July	First production in the University Drama Society's Little Theatre. (It was probably the first in New Zealand with cyclorama, dimmers and spots.)
(no date)	Young painters form "The Group". (These artists, including Rita Angus, Louise Henderson and Olivia Spencer-Bower strongly influenced New Zealand painting over the next 20 years. At this time, Christchurch was the undisputed centre of the visual arts in New Zealand.)

1928

- February 11 Opening of St Georges private hospital.
- March 17 Civic Theatre opens in Manchester Street. (The theatre was built in the burned out shell of the old Alexandra Hall; part of the Canterbury Exhibition Hall. See 1900 and 1917.)
- June 20 Canterbury Aero Club formed. (The first pilot trained by the club was a woman, Aroha Clifford. She may have been New Zealand's first woman pilot.)
- September 11 Kingsford-Smith and his crew (Ulm, Litchfield and McWilliams) land at Wigram in "Southern Cross" after the first trans-Tasman flight. (A crowd of 30,000, alerted by all-night radio broadcasts, had gathered at the airfield.)
- November 15 First performance by Canterbury Repertory Theatre Society, a production of "Milestones".
- (no date) First New Zealand speedway at English Park. (The city has since produced 3 world champion riders - Ronnie Moore [1954,1959], Barry Briggs [1957,1958,1964,1966], and Ivan Mauger [1968,1969,1970,1972].)
- Mecca petrol station (possibly the country's first) opens in Bealey Avenue outside the Carlton Hotel. It is now the Carlton Florist Shop.

1929

- January 22 Death of Professor Bickerton in England. (Since his sacking by the university - see 1902 - he had operated the extraordinary Pleasure Gardens at Wainoni, made fireworks, promoted patent medicines and then travelled to England to promote his "partial impact" astronomical theory.)
- February 14 Christchurch - Lyttelton railway line electrification completed.
- August 1 "Lyttelton Times" re-named "Christchurch Times" after being taken over by Auckland interests. (In fact, the paper had moved from Lyttelton to Christchurch in 1863.)
- December 11 Edmonds band rotunda opens.
- December 18 Arrest of 2 armed youths who are responsible for dozens of cases of serious arson (and a near murder) in the previous 6 months.

1930

- March 1 Majestic Theatre opens - the city's first steel frame building.

March 25	New Zealand's first country library service begins as Canterbury adult rural education scheme under the auspices of the W.E.A.
November 6	Weekly air service (New Zealand's first regular service) begins to Dunedin.
December	South Island's first traffic lights installed at the intersection of Cashel and Colombo Streets.
(no date)	Marion Saunders begins New Zealand's first speech therapy classes at the Normal School.

1931

February 26	Bowker Fountain in Victoria Square in operation.
April	First trolley buses in operation.
(no date)	Beginning of the Nurses Home building at Christchurch Hospital after yet another bitter debate over encroachment into Hagley Park. Ralph Winterbourn begins New Zealand's first systematic experiments in remedial teaching.

1932

January 1	Radio Broadcasting Company of N.Z. (owner of the YA stations) taken over by Government to form the nucleus of a State broadcasting system.
April 1	New Regent Street opens, built on the site of the old Colosseum. (See 1908)
May 4	Christchurch Tramway strike. (One of the bitterest in the city's history, it lasted 16 days. There were many injuries and arrests among the strikers. The tram sheds were barricaded with barbed wire, and trams were fitted with wire mesh screens over their windows to ward off attacks.)
June 16	Robert McDougall Art Gallery opens. (The gallery was a gift of R.E. McDougall, Managing Director of Aulsebrooks and Company.)
August 10	Statue of Captain James Cook unveiled in Victoria Square.

1933

September	"Venetian" carnival on the Avon River by the Edmonds Band Rotunda. (The river was dammed to provide deeper water for the displays.)
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- November 9 Mrs E.R. McCombs (Lyttelton) becomes the first woman MP in New Zealand.
- (no date) Beginning of daffodil plantings in Hagley Park. (Initiated by James McPherson, Curator of the Botanic Gardens, the plantings continued until 1945. Nearly all of the hundreds of thousands of bulbs were donated by the people of Christchurch.)

1934

- April 29 Visit by George Bernard Shaw. (He gave a nationwide radio broadcast from his civic reception in Christchurch.)
- June 25 Death of Harry Ell. (The uncompleted Summit Road and Sign of the Takahe projects were taken over by his son. See 1938 and 1949.)

1935

- January 19-21 Visit by the Duke of Gloucester.
- January 19 River carnival on the Avon near Park Terrace.
- February 16 First test match by New Zealand women cricketers played against England at Lancaster Park. (England won.)
- June 10 John Drew and poet/typographer Dennis Glover founded Caxton Press to publish New Zealand literature. (Most of the decade's best writers were first published by the company.)
- July 1 Evening papers "Star" and "Sun" merge to become the "Star Sun", ending a 6 year newspaper war, the longest and most bitter in New Zealand's history. (The "peace" agreement between the 3 companies concerned also saw the demise of the "Christchurch Times" [once the "Lyttelton Times"], the oldest daily paper in the country.)
- December 17 City Council decides to buy 230 hectares of land at Harewood for a city airport. (The purchase was strongly criticised in many quarters as excessively large, but subsequent history has more than vindicated the decision.)
- (no date) Concert by violinist Yehudi Menuhin (already famous at only 17).

1936

- January 16 Inauguration of inter-island air service by Union Airways.
- September Urlwins Industries (now part of the P.D.L. Group) manufacture New Zealand's first plastic products.

October	Christchurch team wins the first national contract bridge championship.
November	Tramway Board introduces diesel buses.

1937

June 9	Citizens War Memorial unveiled in Cathedral Square.
(no date)	Austrian refugee Dr.(now Sir) Karl Popper begins lectureship in philosophy at Canterbury University. (He remained until the end of W.W.II. He is regarded today as one of the world's leading philosophers of science.)

1938

February 26	Summit Road opens.
April 20	First Inter-Dominion trotting in New Zealand held at Addington Raceway. (Originally scheduled for Easter, the contest was postponed by flooding throughout the city. Further flooding after the first races delayed the finals until May 4.)
May	Robert M. Macfarlane (knighted in 1975) becomes Mayor until his departure for overseas service in 1941. (Longtime Councillor and MP - Speaker of the House from 1958 to 1960 - he served again as Mayor from 1950 to 1958.)
(no date)	Christchurch Operatic Society formed.
	Widening of McCormacks Bay causeway for motor traffic completed.

1939

February 17	New Millers Department Store building (now the Civic Offices) opens. (Designed by G.A.J.Hart, the building contained the South Island's first escalator.)
March 3	Statue of J.E. FitzGerald in Rolleston Avenue "unveiled" as a student prank. (The statue, a gift from R.E.Green, had been offered to the City Council in 1934 and to the Beautifying Association in 1936, but had been declined by both because of legal disputes between Mr Green and his family. The statue was finally accepted by the Domains Board in 1938, but was never officially unveiled.)
May 6	New Municipal Electricity Department building opens.
August 26	Official opening of City Council's pensioner housing project in Barnett Avenue, Sydenham; the first local body pensioner housing in New Zealand.

October 12	Battery point guns in Lyttelton Harbour accidentally sink fishing boat "Dolphin". 1 man killed.
(no date)	First Primary Schools music festival.

1940

January 5	First echelon of Canterbury troops for World War II leave Lyttelton on "Dunera" and "Sobieski".
April	H.S. Feast begins 21 years as Town Clerk.
May 18	Harewood Airport officially opens. (It was soon to be taken over by the RNZAF for the duration of the war.)
May 24	Centennial music festival presents 10 days of music to large audiences. (This was the New Zealand Centennial. For Christchurch Centennial see 1950.)
September 1	New Zealand Railways railcar sets a speed record of 125 kilometres per hour (78 miles per hour) near Rolleston. (This is still the highest speed officially acknowledged on the New Zealand rail system.)
November 25	"Holmwood", en route from the Chathams to Lyttelton, sunk by German raiders. (Passengers and crew were taken aboard the German ships, and eventually made their way home 2 months later.)

1941

January 24	Civic reception for playwright/composer Noel Coward.
April 1	Huntsbury and Borough of New Brighton join City.
June 25	German minelayer "Adjutant" lays mines in the approaches to Lyttelton Harbour. (But this German claim is unsupported - no trace of the mines was ever found.)
September	First play centre established at Fendalton.
December 12	Slit trenches dug in Hagley Park and in Cranmer and Latimer Squares.
(no date)	W.P. Glue begins unbroken term of 30 years as a City Councillor.

1942

May	Air raid shelters dug in Cathedral Square.
December 13	Premiere in Christchurch of "Landfall in Unknown Seas" by Douglas Lilburn and Allen Curnow.

December 16	Construction of Sign of the Takahe taken over by City.
(no date)	Ngaio (later Dame Ngaio) Marsh produces "Hamlet" for the University Drama Society, beginning a 20 year association with the society and fostering a classical theatre revival in the City.
	Petition from the Canterbury Housewives Union leads to the carrying of prams on hooks on the front of Transport Board buses.

1943

April 1	St Andrews Hill (Mt Pleasant) joins City.
October	"Risingholme" bought by Sir John McKenzie and presented to the city as a public park. (Early in 1949 it became a community centre, the first to be established in a large town.)

1944

December 16	Reconstructed cob cottage at Ferrymead officially opens.
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1945

April 1	Sumner Borough, McCormacks Bay and Hillsborough join City.
May 8	V.E. (Victory in Europe) day celebrations.
May 19	Severe flooding throughout city.
July 13	Severe gales with gusts to 145 kilometres per hour (90 miles per hour).
July 14	Record snowfall 280mm (11 inches) over most of city.
July 18	Christchurch's lowest recorded temperature -7.1 deg C. (Note that this is air temperature which is recorded above ground level. Frost readings are taken on the ground and can be several degrees colder than the air temperature. Record frost was in 1872.)
August 8	More flooding in City, worst at Shirley, Radley and Sumner.
August 15	V.J. (Victory over Japan) day celebrations.
September 26	Charles Hazlett Upham (born Christchurch 1908) awarded second V.C. for gallantry in the Western Desert, 1942. (He won his previous award in Crete during May 1941.)
December 15	Railway line to Picton completed.

1946

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| January | Shops and Offices Amendment Act ends Saturday shopping, but New Brighton gains an exemption to allow Saturday trading to continue. |
| August | Hagley Park and Botanic Gardens handed over to City Council by act of Parliament. Christchurch Domains Board abolished. |
| (no date) | Fire destroys "Cashmere" mansion. (Designed by S. Hurst Seager, it was built in 1905. The huge wooden house took only 45 minutes to burn.) |

1947

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| February 26 | First ticketed airline flight from New Zealand - Lancastrian "City of London" flies from Harewood to Sydney. |
| March | First issue of literary magazine "Landfall" published by Caxton Press. |
| May 14 | Mabel Howard (Sydenham) becomes Minister of Health, the country's first woman Cabinet Minister. |
| November 18 | Disastrous fire in Ballantynes Department store. 41 lives lost in New Zealand's worst fire tragedy. (The fire led to drastic revisions of fire safety codes throughout the country.) |
| (no date) | Municipal tepid baths close.

Visit by Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery.

First women's pipe band in New Zealand formed in City. |

1948

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| February | Schools closed because of polio epidemic. |
| February 25 | Picton to Christchurch express derailed at Seddon. 6 people killed. |
| October 1 | City Council takes over Canterbury Public Library from University. |
| October 20 | "Pleasure Garden" art controversy begins when a Frances Hodgkins painting (done in about 1933) is exhibited at "Group" show. (This fierce debate on art style was joined by people throughout New Zealand. It raged for 3 years until the City Council accepted the painting as a gift on September 3, 1951.) |
| (no date) | Elmwood Players formed. |

1949

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|-------------|---|
| February 21 | City coat of arms granted armorial bearings. |
| April 1 | Sign of the Takahe opens. (This was the completion of the Summit Road developments begun by Harry Ell in 1908.) |
| May 27 | New Zealand's first commercial aerial topdressing on Banks Peninsula. |
| June 18 | Announcement of decision to move Canterbury University campus to Ilam. |
| December 1 | Sydney G.(later Sir Sydney) Holland (Fendalton) becomes Prime Minister. |
| (no date) | First Lady Wigram motor race. (The Wigram course was New Zealand's first true motor racing track.) |
| | First New Zealand made motor tyres manufactured at Firestone factory in Papanui. |

1950

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|-------------|---|
| November | Sir Ernest Andrews retires from Mayoralty after 9 years, ending continuous service on the Council since 1919. |
| December 1 | Kerrs Reach cutting on the Avon River completed. |
| December 16 | Harewood Airport becomes New Zealand's first International Airport - 100 years to the day from the arrival of the first Canterbury Association settlers. |
| December | Christchurch City centennial celebrations include an open air church service in Cathedral Square (over 30,000 people), and a procession watched by over 100,000. Visitors include the Archbishop of Canterbury. |
| (no date) | Centennial Pool built. |
| | New Zealand Trotting Conference formed in City. |

1951

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| January 21 | New Zealand's worst yachting disaster. 10 people lost when 2 yachts "Husky" and "Argo" sink in a storm during the Wellington to Christchurch centennial race. (Only one of the 22 starters finished the course.) |
| February 13 | Waterfront strike begins, with all New Zealand ports idle by February 19. (As in previous strikes, Lyttelton avoided the worst of the violence and confrontations which occurred in other ports.) |

June 29	First regular South Island trans-Tasman flights begin from Melbourne to Christchurch.
July 11	Waterfront strike ends.
(no date)	North Canterbury Red Cross begins New Zealand's first "meals on wheels".

1952

May	New Zealand's first television signals transmitted from experimental station ZL3XT at Canterbury University.
December	Canterbury Childrens Theatre (founded by Neta Neale) gives first performance - "The Tinder Box".

1953

February	University Little Theatre destroyed by fire.
June 29	Aviation pioneer Richard W. Pearse dies in Christchurch. (Pearse made one of the world's first powered flights on or about March 31, 1902 in South Canterbury. He moved to Christchurch in 1921, and worked on his astonishing "convertiplane" over many years.)
October 1	Over 3000 hectares of Waimairi (showgrounds area), Heathcote (Bromley area) and Estuary included in City.
October 10	The "last great air race" from London to Christchurch won by an RAF Canberra bomber.
December 24	4 Christchurch victims among 151 dead in Tangiwai railway disaster.
(no date)	New Zealand's first Round Table set up in Christchurch. Floral clock (New Zealand's first) presented to City by Calder McKay Ltd.

1954

January 19-22	Visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh (the first New Zealand visit by a reigning monarch).
June 22	Pauline Parker and Juliet Hulme murder Parker's mother in Victoria Park. (Their subsequent trial was one of the most sensational in the city's history.)
September 11	Last tram journey in Christchurch.
December	Christchurch Regional Planning Authority formed.

1955

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| April 1 | Part of Halswell area joins City. |
| May 28 | First parking meters installed. |
| December 20 | First Antarctic flights by USN Operation Deep Freeze from Christchurch. |
| (no date) | R.E. Perks begins Saturday morning orchestral classes. (By 1960, the classes had become the Christchurch School of Instrumental Music.) |
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1956

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| November 8 | Last trolley bus runs. |
| November 25 | Richard Pearse's "convertiplane" taken to Auckland. (It is now on display in Auckland's Museum of Transport and Technology.) |
| December 16-17 | Visit by Duke of Edinburgh. |
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1957

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| September 15 | City Council grants charter (Freedom of the City) to RNZAF, Wigram. |
| November 21 | 4 killed in SAFE Air Bristol freighter crash at Russley golf course. |
| (no date) | Blenheim Road and overbridge completed. (Public protests had prevented the extension of the road through Hagley Park to St Asaph Street.) |
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1958

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| February 12-14 | Visit by Queen Mother. |
| March 8 | Christchurch athlete Marise Chamberlain breaks world record for 440 yards. |
| November 10 | Museum centennial extensions open. |
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1959

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| | Population reaches 200,000. |
| April 8 | Billy Graham crusade draws 50,000 to Lancaster Park. |
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August	Totem pole carved in the state of Oregon, USA. (The pole was presented to Christchurch and erected in North Hagley Park. See also 1980.)
August 31	Princess Margaret Hospital opens.
November 15	City Council grants charter to the Canterbury Regiment.
November 26	Memorial Avenue (a memorial to airmen killed in W.W.II) officially opens.
(no date)	Rev Phyllis Guthardt ordained at Linwood Methodist Church - New Zealand's first woman minister. See 1984.

1960

February 2	Burnside High School opens. (Possibly the biggest high school in the Southern Hemisphere, the school roll peaked at 2130 in 1977.)
February 11	Mrs H.L. Garrett appointed New Zealand's first jury forewoman.
February 22	New airport terminal (designed by Paul Pascoe) opens.
May 23	Tsunami ("tidal wave") causes water level range of nearly 6 metres in 2 hours at Lyttelton.
September 24	Jellie Park Pool opens.
November 1	New railway station opens. (The building had been designed before W.W.II.)
December 2	Rehua meeting house opens, the first new meeting house in the South Island for over 100 years.
(no date)	End of New Zealand's longest lawsuit, which had begun the previous year and lasted 151 days. (Pyramid Machines v W.H.Price and Son Ltd.)

1961

January	Contract let for building Christchurch - Lyttelton road tunnel.
June 1	Television transmission begins from CHTV 3, Christchurch.

1962

February 3	Peter Snell sets new world records for the half mile and 800 metres at Lancaster Park.
April 1	Mt Pleasant Valley and Cannon estate join City from Heathcote.
April 1	First City Council district planning scheme becomes operative.

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| September 10 | Controversial master transportation plan made public by Regional Planning Authority. |
| October 9 | Town Hall site chosen in Kilmore Street. (Assisted by advice from visiting Professor Gordon Stephenson, the unanimously accepted proposal ended years of dispute over this choice. Other sites considered were the old public library site in Hereford Street and an area near Latimer Square. Another often debated site was Victoria Square.) |

1963

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| February 16-17 | Visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. (The New Brighton trotting course was bought by the City and re-named Queen Elizabeth Park in her honour.) |
| March 9 | Concerts by jazz trumpeter Louis Armstrong. |
| November 1 | Airport runway extensions begin. |

1964

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| February 27 | Lyttelton road tunnel opens, New Zealand's longest. |
| March 7-8 | Air exposition at airport marks opening of runway extensions (to 2400 metres) and 50th anniversary of Scotland's Timaru to Christchurch flight. |
| June 27 | Large crowds for visit of Beatles pop group. |
| July 17 | Opening of the Government Life Building in Cathedral Square. (It was the city's first "high rise glass box". The building's rooftop clock and temperature readings have become a familiar part of the Square.) |
| July 28 | Rolleston Avenue trees cut down by City Council, at the request of Christ's College Board. Intense public protest follows. |
| November 28 | Opening of Cashin Quay, Lyttelton Harbour. (The engineering techniques used in reclaiming this area were unique in the world.) |

1965

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| February 22 | Opening of first Pan-Pacific Arts Festival. Artists include singer Inia Te Wiata (in "Porgy and Bess") and conductor Sir Malcolm Sargent. |
| April 10 | Airport becomes New Zealand's first jet airport with the inauguration of the first regular jet flights from Christchurch to Australia. |
| July 19 | City Council grants charter to HMNZS "Pegasus". |

August	Colombo Street/Moorhouse Avenue overbridge opens.
September 25	Riot at Paparua Prison. 40 warders and police injured.
September	Water supply fluoridated in Waimairi County. (A longrunning debate ensued over the proposed fluoridation of Christchurch City's water supply. The plans were abandoned, leaving Christchurch as New Zealand's only major city without fluoridation.)
September	Canterbury Childrens Theatre buys the old malthouse in south Colombo Street.
October	New Brighton Pier demolished.
November 9	Opening of the city's first parking building on the corner of Manchester and Gloucester Streets.
December 15	Roll on/roll off loading facility in use at Lyttelton Harbour.

1966

January 17	City Council grants charter to 2nd Battalion, RNZIR.
April 23-24	Visit by Queen Mother.
May 25	Steering committee set up to plan Ferrymead Historic Park.
June 8	New "Wahine" (described as "the largest vehicular ferry in the world") begins on the Lyttelton-Wellington run.
August 9	First City Council urban renewal housing (Airedale Courts) opens.

1967

February 15	Waltham Lido Pool opens.
February 28	Canterbury cricket team defeats visiting Australians, the first time any New Zealand team had done so.
April 3	Re-built Ferrymead Bridge opens.
May 29	Opening of the new Bank of New Zealand building in Cathedral Square.
June	First paraplegic sports in New Zealand at Christchurch Hospital.
October	First section of Northern Motorway opens.
(no date)	"Golden Plough" world ploughing championships held at Lincoln College.

1968

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| March 9 | Second Pan-Pacific Arts Festival opens. |
| April 11 | "Wahine" storm (the city's worst recorded storm) causes one death and widespread wind and flood damage. |
| May 23 | Visit by Duke of Edinburgh. |
| September 26 | City Council given partial control of the Estuary. |
| October | Retirement of Sir George Manning, Mayor since 1958, after a total of 34 years on the Council. |
| December | Yaldhurst Transport Museum opens to public. |
| (no date) | Halswell County amalgamates with Paparua County. |
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1969

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| May 25 | First pair of one-way streets (Lichfield and St Asaph Streets) in operation. (With traffic signals eventually controlled by a computer, this was the beginning of New Zealand's first area traffic control scheme.) |
| June | Mona Vale estate bought by City and Riccarton Borough. |
| November 1 | Ministry of Transport takes over traffic enforcement from City Council. |
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1970

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| March 2 | Amid mounting controversy, City Council begins construction of road deviation through Hagley Park. (The work was stopped by March 7 for legal reasons, and the project was eventually scrapped.) |
| March 16-17 | Visit by the Queen, Duke of Edinburgh, Prince of Wales and Princess Anne. |
| April 22 | New Teachers College opens at Ilam. (Secondary division only. The completed complex was opened on October 26, 1978.) |
| April | International Machine Tool Show at Canterbury Court. |
| May 5 | Visit by Canadian Premier, Pierre Trudeau. |
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1971

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| February 4-14 | Great Moscow Circus performs in North Hagley Park. |
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April 15	Christchurch production of Jenny McLeod's "Earth and Sky" in Civic Theatre.
April 21	Court Theatre's first production, "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie".
April 30	6000 protesters march against the war in Vietnam.
July 10	Record crowd of over 57,000 at Lancaster Park for rugby test, New Zealand v British Lions.
October 9	Councillor N.G. Pickering ousts sitting first-term Mayor A.R. Guthrey after an intense and controversial election campaign over the issues of the Hagley Park road and the siting of the proposed Commonwealth Games facilities. (This resulted in the scrapping of the park road, the abandonment of the uncompleted Centennial Pool alterations and the building of new athletic and swimming facilities at Queen Elizabeth II Park.)
October	Last steam train leaves Christchurch.
November	Waimairi County Council adopts New Zealand's first building insulation by-law.

1972

February 21	Adelaide (Australia) becomes Christchurch's first sister city.
September 30	New Town Hall complex and James Hay Theatre (designed by Warren and Mahoney) opens. Ferrier Fountain commissioned.
December 3	First jumbo jet lands at airport.

1973

January 31	City Council grants charter to HMNZS "Canterbury".
February 7	Record temperature 41.6 deg C (the highest ever in any major New Zealand city) causes livestock losses (over 20,000 poultry die) and aggravates a serious fire on Clifton Hill. 5 houses destroyed. (Later in the day, a south-west wind change lowered the temperature by a record 28 deg C.)
May 19	Visit by the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan.
May 20	Central area one-way street system completed with the inclusion of Montreal and Durham Streets.
August 4	Radio Avon, the city's first private radio station, begins regular transmission.
August 16	The Wizard (Ian Brackenbury Channel) arrives from Australia for a student's arts festival. (He subsequently became a star attraction in the newly re-built Cathedral Square, after winning a battle with the City Council over the right to speak in public.)

October 1	J.H. Gray becomes the city's General Manager and Town Clerk as the Council introduces corporate management.
October 11-14	Visit by Duke of Edinburgh.
November 25	Queen Elizabeth II sports complex and swimming pools open. (Design by engineer Bill Lovell-Smith and architect Peter Beaven.)
November 29	Rolleston satellite town project announced.
December 8	New Police Station in Hereford Street opens.
(no date)	Christchurch's worst year for road accidents - 1338 reported injury accidents, including 41 deaths. (Improved traffic control and education has lowered this figure by approximately 10% in recent years, but the Christchurch road toll remains New Zealand's worst.)

1974

January 18	Ramada Inn (now Vacation Hotel) opens.
January	Cathedral Square reconstruction as a pedestrian precinct completed. (Curiously, this highly praised civic amenity has never been officially opened.)
January 24	10th Commonwealth Games open at Queen Elizabeth II Park, one of the greatest sporting events in New Zealand's history. Visitors include the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne. (Highlight of the opening ceremony was the New Zealand Army Band's spectacular novelty marching routine. Seen on international live TV, the idea was soon copied by bandsmen throughout the Commonwealth.)
January 25	Cantabrian Richard Tayler wins 10,000 metres in games record time. (This was the first live colour TV coverage of a major race. Tayler was honoured as 1974 "Sportsman of the Year", but his sports career was cut tragically short by the onset of crippling arthritis.)
January 26	Christchurch students Mark Treffers and Janie Parkhouse win gold medals in Commonwealth Games swimming events.
February 2	Commonwealth Games end with "the greatest middle distance race of all time". Tanzanian Filbert Bayi wins the 1500 metres in new world record time. (Second was John Walker who also broke the existing record. The national records of five countries Tanzania, Kenya, Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand - were all broken in this race.)
February 26	World's biggest plane, a USN Lockheed Galaxy, lands at airport.
March 2	Re-built Centennial Pool opens.

April 16	Flooding throughout city after record rainfall - 124mm (4.89 inches) in 24 hours.
April 29	Cr. David Caygill, aged 25, becomes the city's youngest ever acting Mayor (for 5 days).
August 13	Kurashiki (Japan), becomes a sister city.
August 18	Concert by Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.
August 31	Death of Prime Minister Norman Kirk, M.P. for Sydenham. (He had earlier been M.P. for Lyttelton, and Mayor of Kaiapoi.)
September 27	Visit by the Shah and Empress of Iran.
December 23	State Insurance Company announces the purchase of Trinity Church, (designed by B.W. Mountfort, built 1874) and its conversion into the State Trinity Centre. (The completed project was opened on November 22, 1975.)

1975

January	First New Zealand Games held at Q.E.II Park. (The Oath of Amateurism was read by Christchurch athlete Val Young, who has won 28 national titles - more than anyone else, male or female.)
March 22	3000 joggers take part in the first City-to-Surf fun run.
April 11	Visit by Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore.
May 1	Canterbury University completes its move from city to Ilam campus.
May 8	New Zealand's first mini roundabout in operation at the corner of Riccarton Road and Deans Avenue.
May 10	Ms Vicki Buck becomes the city's (and New Zealand's) youngest ever City Councillor at 19.
May 16	Opening of Four Avenues, New Zealand's first State alternative education school.
June 18	Record smog level - 3076 micrograms per cubic metre over 2 hour period during night. (The introduction of domestic clean air zones has slightly alleviated this long standing city problem, but Christchurch's air pollution remains New Zealand's worst. See also 1977.)
June 30	TV2 transmission starts.
July	Chateau Commodore (now Chateau Regency) Hotel opens.
August 1	Severe nor-west gale causes serious damage throughout city and province. Winds gust to a record 172 kilometres per hour

(107 miles per hour). Over 250 injuries in Canterbury, and many forests devastated.

September 13	Fire (probably arson) destroys Addington showgrounds grandstand.
September 15	Christchurch (Dorset, England), becomes a sister city.
September 26	Noahs Hotel opens.
September 27	Extensions to airport domestic terminal open.
October	Willowbank Wildlife reserve opens to public.
December 1	Rolleston satellite town project scrapped.
(no date)	Southern Ballet gives its first performance "Giselle".

1976

February 15	25,000 attend concert by pop singer Neil Diamond at Q.E.II Park.
June 4	Opera singer Dame Joan Sutherland gives concert.
July 30	7 Canterbury men in gold medal winning hockey team at the Montreal Olympics.
September 14	Inter-island ferry service from Lyttelton ends with the last sailing of the "Rangatira".
September 26	Orana Park Wildlife Reserve opens.

1977

February 26	New Durham Street bridge over the Avon opens.
March 3-7	Visit by Queen and Duke of Edinburgh.
March 4	Museum Antarctic wing opens.
March 23	Durham Street overbridge opens.
April 25	Bridge of Remembrance becomes a pedestrian precinct.
June	Lyttelton container crane in operation.
June 14	Worst ever daytime smog levels - 750 micrograms per cubic metre. (But this is only a quarter of the worst night levels. See 1975.)
July 4	Hundreds evacuated as serious flooding affects City.
September 19	Visit by Prince and Princess Prem Purachatra of Thailand.

September 23	First Vietnamese refugees arrive in City.
December 21	New Zealand's first closed circuit central city television traffic control system in operation for City Council.

1978

January 13-15	Visit by Crown Prince Reza of Iran.
February 25	New Brighton Mall opens.
June 8	Visit by Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands.
June	Tongan freighter "Kemphaan" towed into Lyttelton Harbour on fire. (The ship was later taken out to sea and sunk by the RNZAF.)
June	Christchurch City Council purchases Millers Department Store for Civic Offices.
September 29	Friendship Corner opens by the Bridge of Remembrance. (After a heated public debate over whether the area should be used for parking, the Council decided to plant the area with trees representing Christchurch's sister cities.)
October 19	Visit by President Walter Scheel of West Germany.
October 28	Pioneer Sports Stadium opens. (See 1879)
November 11	Radio Rhema, New Zealand's first religious radio station, begins regular transmission.
December	Restored time-ball station at Lyttelton opens to public.
December 27	Concert at Q.E.II Park by rock singer David Bowie.
December 30	Canterbury Orchestra disbanded. (The demise of this professional orchestra ended 6 years of acrimonious dispute which profoundly disrupted the musical scene in Christchurch.)

1979

January 8	First women bus drivers on Transport Board buses.
February 20	8.5 metre totara log removed from the Avon near the Barbadoes Street bridge. (A remnant of the prePolynesian forests, it had been buried beneath the river for centuries.)
February 25	Concert by jazzman "Count" Basie and his orchestra.
April 1	Lyttelton road tunnel becomes toll-free.
July 11	First meeting of the Canterbury United Council.
July 15-21	D'oyly Carte Opera Company gives performances.

July 17	Visit by Princess Anne.
August	RNZAF national aviation museum officially established at Wigram.
October 15	Visit by King Tupou IV and the Queen of Tonga.
October 30	University of Canterbury gives old university site to the Arts Centre Trust Board.
October 31	USN Starlifter crash lands at airport - no-one hurt.
November 5	Regent Theatre gutted by fire.
December 11	Completion of airport international arrivals terminal, stage 1 (arrival hall).
December 17	City Council approves Neighbourhood Committee scheme.
December	Christchurch City Council rejects fluoridation of the water supply.

1980

April 1	Canterbury Regional Planning Authority merges with Canterbury United Council.
May 12	Visit by Mr Li Xiannian, Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China.
September 6	\$9.5 million Icon exhibition opens at Robert McDougall Art Gallery.
September 18	Theatre Royal bought by Theatre Royal Charitable Foundation to be renovated and preserved as a theatre.
October 26	City Council gives land at Cuthberts Green to the trustees of new Nga Hau E Wha national Marae.
November 11-13	Visit by Duke and Duchess of Kent.
November 11	\$25 million Thyssen Bornemisza exhibition of modern painting opens at Robert McDougall Art Gallery.
November 12	New Civic Offices (formerly Millers Department Store) officially open.
November 25	Totem Pole placed in new location at Christchurch Airport.

1981

February 16	Seattle (Washington, USA), becomes sister city.
February 28	Visit by Mme Simone Veil, President of European Parliament.

March 28	New South Brighton bridge opens.
April 10-12	Visit by Prince of Wales.
April 25	New \$16 million postal centre in Hereford Street in operation. (A determined fight by civic groups had failed to prevent its siting next to the old Public Library.)
April	Death in Christchurch of Mrs Agnes Lucy Whitworth, aged 108.
May 4	New southern arterial (Brougham Street to Curletts Road) opens.
May 8	Go-ahead given for National Sports Training Centre at Q.E.II Park.
June 24	First Metro Refuse transfer station (Sockburn) in operation.
August 15	Massive demonstrations in Christchurch against rugby test between All Blacks and Springboks.
October 12-14	Visit by Queen and Duke of Edinburgh.
October	Private developer begins transformation of the old Normal School into residential apartments, ending the city's most protracted preservation battle.
December 10	Government announces its intention to preserve the Chief Post Office in Cathedral Square.

1982

February 2	New central Public Library (designed by Warren and Mahoney) opens in Gloucester Street.
February 18	Internationally famous writer Dame Ngaio Marsh dies at her home in Cashmere.
March 15	City Council resolution declares Christchurch City a nuclear weapons free zone.
April 6	Premiere of "Roadshow" road safety stage show. (The show was later taken on a national tour for 6 months from February 1983. It played to a total audience of over 250,000, probably the biggest of any New Zealand musical show.)
April 11	Waimairi becomes a District Council.
June 11	Hamish Hay, Mayor of Christchurch since 1974, knighted in Queen's Birthday honours.
July 19	City Council approves further extension of airport runway by 845 metres.
August 7	Opening of City Mall, a major new pedestrian amenity created by the closure of parts of Cashel and High Streets. (The project had first been mooted in 1967.)

September 30	Closure of gas works.
October 5	Paraplegic archer Neroli Fairhall (in competition with able-bodied athletes) wins gold medal at Brisbane Commonwealth Games.
October 26	Old library re-opens as Library Chambers (architect Don Donnithorne).
December 18	"Tolaga Bay" (53,784 tonnes) becomes the largest ship ever to dock at Lyttelton.

1983

January 19	Tornado and hailstorm strike western City. Damage severe at Halswell.
February 21	Friendship link with Gansu Province (China) established under sister city programme.
March 15	New Zealand's first "test-tube" baby born at St Georges Hospital.
April 1	City Council takes over central area parking enforcement from Ministry of Transport.
April 13-14	Visit of Chinese Premier, Zhao Ziyang.
April 17	Visit of Dr. Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury.
April 28-29	Visit of Prince and Princess of Wales.
May 28	Visit of Professor Zhu Xuanren, Vice Governor, Gansu Province China.
June 28	Author Margaret Mahy awarded Britains prestigious Carnegie Medal for her children's book, "The Haunting".
July 20	Record Ranfurly Shield rugby score - Canterbury defeats North Otago 88-0 at Lancaster Park.
July 24	New Zealand's first "test-tube" twins born at Christchurch Hospital.
September 25	Coldest recorded day in September with a maximum of 5.9°.
September 27	Visit by Duke and Duchess of Wellington.
September 30	Christchurch City Council adopts recommendation to close Victoria Street to traffic through Victoria Square.
October 3	Rugby player Robbie Deans becomes highest scorer of points in 79 year history of the Ranfurly Shield with 187 points from thirteen games.
October 27	New office building on the corner of Manchester and Kilmore Streets has New Zealand's first exterior lift.

November 8	Opening of Canterbury Centre. The building (55m) becomes the city's tallest, above the Police Station (53m) and the University High Library (51m). (But the Cathedral spire at 62m remains the highest structure.)
December	Civic Theatre demolished.
December 6	16 year old Christchurch student David Tan completes B.Sc Honours degree at Canterbury University to become New Zealand's youngest ever university graduate.

1984

January 11	A live 30cm snake is found in a driveway in Parklands. A second snake is found the following day.
August 20	A longterm aim of banning open fires is approved by the Christchurch City Council.
October 5	Greg Mortimer of Christchurch conquers Mt Everest without oxygen.
November 5	The Christchurch Civic Trust Board buys the Mt Vernon property for a public park.
November 23	The first woman to head the Methodist Church is Rev Dr Phyllis Guthardt a Christchurch Minister from Riccarton Parish. See 1959
December 16	John Walker becomes the first person to run a sub four minute mile in Canterbury. He broke the record at QEII Park. (Feb. 1985, Walker broke the world record for highest number of sub four minute miles.)
December 31	"Kiwi House" opened at Orana Park (first chick born in captivity in South Island, November 1989).

1985

January 12	The first South Island "In Vitro" baby is born at Christchurch Womens Hospital.
March	World and Olympic Ice Skating Champions Torville and Dean perform in Hagley Park.
April 5	Visit by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.
May 3	6,000 Christchurch citizens rally against the All Black tour of South Africa.
July 1	Open road speed limit raised from 80 kph to 100 kph.
September 5	French agent Dominique Prieur convicted over the bombing of the Greenpeace ship "Rainbow Warrior", transferred from Mt Eden Jail to Christchurch Womens Prison.

September 14	Canterbury loses Ranfurly Shield to Auckland after a 3 year reign. Final score 28-23.
October 22	"Elizabeth" the one tonne sea elephant dies of a viral infection on Sumner Beach. She had lived for 5 years on the City's beaches, Estuary and rivers and was often found crawling up suburban streets.
October 28	110 vehicles stolen over Labour Weekend in the Canterbury district. Police claim it as a record.
October 30	Mid-Canterbury farmers slaughter 2,500 ewes in protest at the low prices they are receiving for their sheep.
October 30	Writer-in-Residence at Canterbury University, Keri Hulme wins internationally prestigious "Booker McConnell" prize for her novel "The Bone People".
November 27	Remains of swimming pool uncovered when excavating behind No 1 stand at Lancaster Park. Pool used as venue for 1907 Australian and New Zealand Swimming Championships. See1894.
December	Halleys Comet becomes visible in night sky. See1910.

1986

February	Radio UFM (located at University of Canterbury) becomes first station in Canterbury to be granted an FM warrant on a long term basis.
February 28	Visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.
May 27	Court Theatre's 15th anniversary celebrated with two week season of Steven Sondheim's play "Sweeney Todd" in James Hay Theatre.
July 7	Heavy rain floods northern suburbs of city.
July 28	Grenadier Hotel demolished in Oxford Terrace. (Formerly The Royal, it was the third hotel on this site since 1851).
August 26	The worst lamb loss for a decade in Canterbury due to a wet cold August, costs farmers \$2.8 million
August 27	Visit by Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary, Dr Juzet Marjai.
October 13	Sir Hamish Hay begins his fifth and final term as Mayor of Christchurch.
October 25	"Qin Shihuang" (Chinese Buried Army) exhibition opens at the McDougall Art Gallery. 71,145 people visited the exhibition over a seven week period, the largest number to a paying show at the Gallery.
November	Visit of President of Israel, Mr Chaim Herzog.

November 4	23 week old Mary Ellen Foulds becomes the youngest baby to be born at Christchurch Womens Hospital (normal gestation is 40 weeks).
November 22	Visit by Pope John Paul II (the first head of the Catholic Church to visit New Zealand).

1987

February 14	Visit by Queen Margarethe of Denmark.
February 21	Plans for 152 metre high observation/tourist tower revealed by Christchurch businessman Jamie Tulloch.
March 14	"Te Maori" exhibition opens at the McDougal Art Gallery. Over a nine week period, 147,012 people visited "Te Maori", the largest number to a single exhibition at the Gallery
May 8	Sir Neil Isaac, founder of Peacock Springs Conservation Park dies.
June 6	\$84 million redevelopment of Christchurch Hospital approved.
July 21	St Michaels Church Day School - 136th anniversary.
July 23	Lotto sales start.
September 5	Canterbury Rowing Club 125th anniversary - believed to be the oldest sports club in New Zealand. See 1861.
October 20	World-wide share market crash affects Christchurch Stock Exchange .
November 22	"Trans Alpine" express train designed specifically for the tourist trade, begins its daily run from Christchurch to Greymouth.
December 1	Visit by King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola of Belgium.
December 5	Rev Margaret Wood elected the first female Archdeacon in the Christchurch Anglican Diocese.
December 18	Stage 1 of Museum restoration approved.
December 27	Rewi Alley dies in Peking, China. He left Christchurch for China in 1926.

1988

January	Construction begins on Christchurch's tallest building to date, the 76.3m Price Waterhouse building.
February 16	Mr William Burton, the last surviving member of Captain Robert Falcon Scott's "Terra Nova" expedition of 1910-1913, dies in Christchurch, aged 99. See 1910.

April 19	Proposal for 152 metre tower in Victoria Square abandoned after much public debate.
May 22-25	Snow falls in Central City for first time in 10 years .
June 22	Visit by Queen Sofia and King Juan Carlos of Spain.
July 19	Jock Orr, nicknamed "The Birdman" after befriending birds in Cathedral Square, dies in Christchurch.
September 5	Stanley Reid, New Zealand's longest serving prisoner (43 years) dies in Christchurch.
September 9	8.5 ^o frost coldest in September since records began at Airport 25 years ago.
September	Record 400 births for month at Christchurch Womens Hospital.
October 3	Park Royal Hotel opens in Victoria Square.
October 11	"The Wizard" wages war against the "Tasteless tyrants of Telecom" by repainting the new blue telephone boxes traditional red.
October 16	Victoria Square Amphitheatre opens.
October 22	Patricia Cooligan appointed Christchurch's first female District Court Judge.
November 12	Richard Hadlee takes his 374th test wicket at Bangalore, India setting a new world record.
November 23	Human remains dating back to pre-European Maori settlement found while excavating for YMCA building on the corner of Hereford Street and Rolleston Avenue. Area declared tapu for 24 hours until remains removed.
November 21	Visit by Chinese Premier Li Peng.
November 29	Visit by Chinese delegates from Sister City of Gansu Province.
December 1	125th anniversary of the opening of New Zealand's first steam passenger railway from Christchurch to Ferrymead. (Commemorated Labour Weekend with a steam train cavacade. See 1863)
December 30	Water restrictions in force for first time in City's history as water tables dropped to record low levels.
December	Scimitar horned oryx born at Orana Park by artificial insemination. First in world and claimed as a milestone in animal park management.

1989

Jan	World Deaf Games held in Christchurch.
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Jan/Feb	Various fires over Port Hills destroy vegetation and threaten property.
February 16	Visit by Queen Silvia and King Carl Gustaf of Sweden.
March 6	Visit by Princess Anne, the Princess Royal.
May 22	First significant rainfall in 22 months breaks drought in Canterbury.
June 21	Redcliffs man Roger Manson receives new heart and lungs at London's Harefield Hospital.
June 29	Minister of Conservation, Phillip Woollaston overturns Department of Conservation veto on the lease of Mt Cavendish Reserve for the Port Hills Gondola project.
July 16	Death of John Densem, Christchurch designer and musician, who initiated this publication.
August 8	Christchurch Central MP and Deputy Prime Minister, Geoffrey Palmer appointed as Prime Minister after resignation of David Lange.
August 21	Sir Hamish Hay announces he will not stand for position of Mayor after 15 years in Local Body politics.
September 18	Final meeting, (its 4,032nd), of the old Christchurch City Council before amalgamation.
October	Dux de Lux Tavern first in Canterbury to brew beer on own premises.
October 8	Redesigned portion of Victoria Square opened.
October 11	Waitangi Tribunal Hearing of land claim by Ngai Tahu closes at Tuahiwi Marae.
October 14	Vicki Buck, first woman and youngest to be elected, wins Christchurch Mayoralty.
November 1	New Christchurch City Council established by amalgamation of the old City, Waimairi District, Riccarton Borough, Heathcote County and parts of Paparua and Eyre Counties.
November 4	Record crowd of 60,000 at Lancaster Park to see Irish Rock Band U2.
November 27	TV3 transmission starts.
December 10	Sunday trading begins in Christchurch.

INDEX TO CHRISTCHURCH CHRONOLOGY.

NOTE: Dates in this index refer to the ENTRY date in the chronology, and are not necessarily the exact date of the event. (For example, although the Nelson colony was founded earlier in the 1840's, it is listed in this index in 1849 because it is mentioned in connection with Captain Thomas's choice of site for the Canterbury settlement.)

Abattoir	1903
Abstinence (see Prohibition)	
Acclimatisation (tree)	1846
(rabbits)	1852
(bees)	1852
(watercress)	1859
(society)	1864
(birds)	1867
(trout)	1867
(salmon)	1867
"Acheron"	1849
Addington Railway Workshops	1889
Addington saleyards	1874
Addington School	1922
Addington Showgrounds fire	1975
Addington trotting grounds	
(begin)	1899
(cars)	1905
(Interdominion)	1938
Adelaide	1972
"Adjutant"	1941
Aerial topdressing	1949
Aeroplane (see Aviation)	
Agricultural and Pastoral Assn	1863
Agricultural conference	1891
Airedale Courts	1966
Aerial mapping	1926
Air Force (See Royal New Zealand Air Force)	
Airport (bought)	1935
(opens)	1940
(international flight)	1947
(international)	1950
(regular trans-Tasman)	1951
(terminal)	1960
(runway extended)	1963
(air exposition)	1964
(first jets)	1965
(first jumbo)	1972
(biggest plane)	1974
(terminal extension)	1975
(international terminal)	1979

(Totem Pole)	1960
(runway extension)	1982
Air race	1953
Air raid shelters	1942
Akaroa (Maori settlement)	1700s
(massacre)	1830
(harbour - massacre)	1832
("Vittoria")	1831
("Heroine")	1838
(cattle landed)	1839
("Herald")	1840
("Britomart")	1840
(French settlers)	1840
(purchase)	1849
(British settlers)	1850
(watercress)	1857
Akaroa County	1910
Alexandra Hall	1928
Allardyce, Allan	1926
All Blacks (Wales)	1905
(Springboks)	1981
(Protest)	1985
Alley, Rewi	1926, 1987
Alternative school	1975
Amalgamation	1989
Amberley	1877
Anderson's Forge (Foundry)	1850
Andrews, Sir Ernest	1950
Andrews and Beaven	1878
Anglican (Female Archdeacon)	1987
Anglican Synod	1873
Angus, Rita	1927
Animal pound	1897
"Ann"	1853
Anne, Princess	1970, 1974, 1979, 1989
"Antarctic"	1830
Antarctica ("Discovery")	1901
("Morning")	1902
("Nimrod")	1908
("Terra Nova")	1910
(Scott's fate)	1913
(Scott statue)	1917
(first flights)	1955
(Museum wing)	1977
Antigua St boatsheds (built)	1882
(fire)	1907
Archbishop of Canterbury	1950, 1983
Archer, Rev J.K	1925
Architecture (see Buildings)	
"Argo"	1951
Armed Forces	
(Canterbury Rifles)	1859
(Volunteers)	1863
(Fort Jervois)	1888
(King Edward barracks)	1905
(Kitchener)	1910

(von Luckner)	1918	(Melbourne flights)	1951
(Battery Point)	1939	(jet flights)	1965
(Montgomery)	1947	(Adelaide)	1972
(Operation Deep Freeze)	1955	(Wizard)	1973
(Army Band)	1974	(Brisbane Games)	1982
(see also Wars, Charters, and Royal New Zealand Air Force)		Automobile (see Motor car)	
Armed robbery	1846	Automobile Association (formed)	1903
Armistice	1918	(gymkhana)	1905
Armson, W.B.	1875, 1881	Aviation (balloon)	1899
Armstrong, Louis "Satchmo"	1963	(glider)	1911
Army (see Armed forces, Wars)		(point-to-point)	1914
Arson (youths)	1929	(first crash)	1914
(Addington)	1975	(Victoria Cross)	1915
Art (first exhibition)	1870	(Canterbury Aviation Co.)	1916
(Canterbury Society of Arts)	1880	(commercial flights)	1917
(Van der Velden)	1890	(commercial accident)	1919
("The Group")	1927	(Cook Strait)	1920
(Robert McDougall Gallery)	1932	(airmail)	1921
("Pleasure Garden" dispute)	1948	(Wigram base)	1923
(Pan Pacific Festivals)	1965, 1968	(mapping)	1926
(Arts Centre)	1979	(trans-Tasman)	1928
(Icon exhibition)	1980	(to Dunedin)	1930
(modern painting exhibition)	1980	(inter-island service)	1936
(Buried Army)	1986	(topdressing)	1949
(Te Maori)	1987	(Pearse)	1953
Artesian water (discovered)	1862	(air race)	1953
(public wells)	1864	(Operation Deep Freeze)	1955
Artificial Insemination	1989	(convertiplane)	1956
Arthur's Pass	1864	(Bristol crash)	1957
Arts Centre (University)	1877	(Memorial Avenue)	1959
(Girls High)	1877	(museum)	1979
(Boys High)	1881	(see also Airport)	
(site given)	1979	Avon, River (first bridge)	1851
Ashby Bergh and Company	1908	(drownings)	1851
"Athenic"	1914	(clogged with weed)	1857
Athletics (Australasian champs.)	1896	(swans)	1864
(Chamberlain)	1958	(flood)	1868
(Snell)	1962	(regatta)	1870
(Commonwealth Games)	1974	(flood)	1886
(New Zealand Games)	1975	(3 drown)	1887
(Val Young)	1975	(Maori canoe)	1891
(fun run)	1975	(Venetian carnival)	1933
(Ranfurly Shield)	1985	(carnival)	1935
Atlanta Cycling Club	1892	(floods)	1945
Auckland ("Monarch")	1850	(Kerr's Reach)	1950
(wool)	1856	(totara log)	1979
(polo)	1890	Avonside (thunderstorm)	1865
(Plunket Shield)	1907	(joins city)	1917
("Lyttelton Times")	1929		
(Pearse plane)	1956		
Aulsebrooks and Co	1863, 1932	Ballantyne, J. and Co. (electricity)	1891
Australia (gold rush)	1852	(fire)	1947
(bush fires)	1898	Ballet (Anna Pavlova)	1926
(Kingsford-Smith)	1928	(Southern Ballet)	1975
(Sydney flight)	1947	Balloon	1899
		Bank	1851

Bank of New Zealand building	1967	Boer War	1899
Bankruptcy (City Council)	1866	Bolt, George	1911
(solicitor)	1893	"boneshakers"	1869
Banks Peninsula ("island")	1770	Booth, General	1891
(whaling)	1836, 1837	Botanic Gardens (established)	1863
(settlers)	1843	(Horticult. Soc.)	1864
(population)	1849	(University site)	1874
(fire)	1898	(Moorhouse statue)	1885
(topdressing)	1949	(City boundary)	1922
Barker, Dr. A.C.	1873	(McPherson)	1933
Barn, the	1861	(to City)	1946
Basie, "Count" William	1979	Bottle Lake	1902
Basilica	1905	Bowie, David	1978
Battery Point	1939	Bowker Fountain	1931
Baudouin, King	1987	Boxing (first professional)	1862
Baxter, James K	1907	(N.Z. Association)	1902
Bayi, Filbert	1974	(championship)	1902
Bealey, Samuel	1863	Boy Scouts	1908
Beatles	1964	Brass bands (see Music)	
Beatrice, Crown Princess	1978	Breakwaters	1865
Beautifying Association (see		Brewery (first)	1858
Christchurch Beautifying Association)		(fire)	1861
Beaven, Peter	1973	('Boutique' or on premises)	1989
Beckenham	1907	Bricks, The	1876
"Bee"	1836	Bridges (Worcester Street)	1851
Bees	1852	(Papanui)	1852
Belgium, Queen of	1987	(Victoria)	1864
Belfast Freezing Works	1883	(Ferrymead)	1864
Bells Baths	1885	(Remembrance opens)	1924
Bernstein, Leonard	1974	(Blenheim Road)	1957
"Betsy Baker"	1857	(Colombo/Moorhouse)	1965
Bickerton, Prof. A.W. (sacking)	1902	(Ferrymead)	1967
(death)	1929	(Durham Street)	1977
Bicycle (boneshakers)	1869	(Remembrance, pedestrian)	1977
(Pioneer Club)	1879	(South Brighton)	1981
(championship)	1880	Bridle Path	1857
(Atlanta Club)	1892	Briggs, Barry	1928
(Bicycle Band)	1895	Bristol Freighter crash	1957
(night racing)	1897	"British King"	1883
(by-law)	1897	"Britomart" HMS	1848
(cycle show)	1897	Bromley	1923, 1953
(tram fenders)	1905	"Brothers Pride"	1863
(Timaru race)	1906	Buck, Ms Vicki	1975, 1989
Birdlings Flat (settlement)	1700s	Buildings	
(destroyed)	1825-28	(Riccarton House)	1856
'Birdman'	1988	(St Andrews Presbyterian Church)	1857
Birds (swans)	1864	(First Town Hall)	1857
(introduced species)	1867	(Christchurch Club)	1861
Births, Record	1988	(New Music Theatre)	1861
Bishopscourt	1926	(Hospital)	1862
Blackheath Place	1876	(Royal Princess Theatre)	1863
"Black Wednesday"	1898	(Sunnyside Hospital)	1863
Blenheim	1833	(Second Town Hall)	1864
Blenheim Road	1957	(Durham St Methodist Church)	1864
Blondin	1876	(Provincial Council Buildings)	1865
Bluff	1865	(First Theatre Royal)	1866

(fire prevention ordinance)	1867	(old malthouse)	1965
(Museum)	1877	(parking building)	1965
(St Michaels Anglican Church)	1872	(Airedale Courts)	1966
(Canterbury Club)	1874	(BNZ buikding)	1967
(library)	1875, 1982	(Mona Vale)	1969
(second Theatre Royal)	1876	(Teachers College)	1970
(terrace housing: Blackheath)	1876	(insulation by-law)	1971
(terrace housing: "The Bricks")	1876	(Town Hall complex)	1972
(Normal School)	1877, 1981	(Q.E.II stadium)	1973
(University)	1877	(Police station)	1973, 1983
(Girls High)	1877	(Ramada Inn)	1974
(railway station)	1877	(State Trinity Centre)	1974
(Chief Post Office)	1879, 1981	(University, Ilam)	1975, 1983
(Lincoln College)	1880	(Chateau Commodore Hotel)	1975
(Boys High)	1881	(Noahs Hotel)	1975
(Antigua Street boatsheds)	1882	(Pioneer Stadium)	1978
(YMCA)	1884	(Airport, international arrivals)	1979
(first City Council)	1887	(City Council Civic Offices)	1980
(Fort Jervois)	1888	(postal centre)	1981
(grecian temple)	1897	(refuse transfer station)	1981
(Canterbury Exhibition Hall)	1900	(new library)	1982
(McLeans mansion)	1900	(Canterbury Savings Bank)	1983
(Christchurch Cathedral)	1904, 1983	(tallest buildings)	1983
(Catholic Cathedral)	1905	(Canterbury Rowing Club)	1987
(Regent Theatre)	1905	"(Kiwi" House)	1984
(King Edward barracks)	1905	(Park Royal)	1988
(Polytech)	1906	(Tallest)	1983, 1988
(state houses)	1906	(Tower Proposal)	1987
(Cashmere Sanitorium)	1907	(Tuahiwi Marae)	1989
(third Theatre Royal)	1908, 1980	Bunbury, Major	1840
(Colosseum)	1908	Burgess and Kelly gang	1866
("Press")	1909	"Buried Army" Exhibition	1986
(Queens Theatre)	1912	Burnside High School	1960
(Sign of the Kiwi)	1917	Burwood Hospital	1902
(second City Council)	1924	Burton, William	1988
(children's library)	1924	Buses (first)	1904
(Bishopscourt)	1926	(trolley)	1931
(Civic Theatre)	1928	(diesel)	1936
(Edmonds Band Rotunda)	1929	(pram hooks)	1942
(Majestic Theatre)	1930	(last trolley)	1956
(nurses home)	1931	(women drivers)	1979
(New Regent Street)	1932	Bush fires (Australian)	1898
(Robert McDougall Art Gallery)	1932	Business (see Industry and commerce)	
(Millers Department Store)	1939	Butler, Samuel	1860
(MED)	1939	Butterfields Department Store	1857
(pensioner housing)	1939		
(Risingholme)	1943		
(cob cottage)	1944	Cab (first stand)	1863
(Cashmere mansion)	1946	(hansom)	1864
(Sign of the Takahe)	1949	Cadeno, Simon	1871
(Princess Margaret Hospital)	1959	Cafe Continental Hotel	1909
(Burnside High School)	1960	Calder McKay Ltd	1953
(Airport terminal)	1960	Camp Bay	1863
(railway station)	1960	Canal League	1908
(Rehua meeting house)	1960	Canal scheme report	1912
(Government Life building)	1964	Canberra bomber	1953

Cane, Thomas	1877	Canterbury Public Library	
Cannon estate	1962	(established)	1859
"Canterbury"	1851	(building)	1875
"Canterbury", HMNZS	1973	(children's)	1924
Canterbury Aero Club	1928	(country service)	1930
Canterbury, Archbishop of	1950, 1983	(to City)	1948
Canterbury Association (formed)	1848	(Town hall site)	1962
(buys land)	1848	(new building)	1982
(charter)	1849	(Library Chambers)	1982
(dissolved)	1852	"Canterbury Punch"	1865
Canterbury Automobile Association -		Canterbury Regiment	1959
(see Automobile Association)		Canterbury Repertory Theatre	
Canterbury Aviation Co. (founded)	1916	Society	1928
(first flights)	1917	Canterbury Rifles	1859
(accident)	1919	Canterbury Rowing Club	1861
(Cook Strait)	1920	Canterbury Rowing Club	1987
(taken over)	1923	Canterbury Savings Bank building	1983
Canterbury Battalion (Suez)	1915	Canterbury settlement	1847
(Gallipoli)	1915	Canterbury Society of Arts	1880
(casualties)	1918	Canterbury United Council	1979, 1980
Canterbury Childrens Theatre		Canterbury University (see University)	
(founded)	1952	Canterbury University Drama Society	
(building)	1965	(Little Theatre)	1927
Canterbury Club	1874	("Hamlet")	1942
Canterbury College (see University)		Car (see Motor car)	
Canterbury Exhibition Hall (built)	1900	Carlos, King	1988
(fire)	1917	Cashin Quay	1965
(re-built)	1924	"Cashmere" mansion	1946
Canterbury Frozen Meat Co	1881	Cass, Thomas	1848
Canterbury Horticultural and		"Castle Eden"	1851
Acclimatisation Society	1864	Cathedral (See Christchurch Cathedral)	
Canterbury Housewives Union	1942	Cathedral Square	
Canterbury Industrial Association	1879	(Christ's College)	1857
Canterbury Jockey Club	1854	(statue)	1867
Canterbury Jubilee Exhibition	1900	(air raid shelters)	1942
Canterbury lamb	1883	(centennial)	1950
Canterbury labour unions	1889	(Govt. Life building)	1964
Canterbury Local Steam Navigation		(BNZ building)	1967
Company	1855	(Wizard)	1973, 1988
Canterbury Manufacturers Assn	1879	(pedestrian)	1974
Canterbury Medical Association	1865	Catholic (school)	1865
Canterbury Municipal Ordinance	1859	(riots)	1879
Canterbury Museum (moas)	1866	(cathedral)	1905
(opens)	1867	(Popes Visit)	1986
(building)	1870	Caygill, David	1974
(excavations)	1872	Caxton Press (founded)	1935
(whale)	1909	("Landfall")	1947
(extensions)	1958	Cecille, Captain J.B	1838
(Antarctic Wing)	1977	Centennial (New Zealand)	1940
Canterbury Musical Society	1860, 1861	(Christchurch)	1950
Canterbury Music Hall	1861	Centennial Music Festival	1940
Canterbury Orchestra	1978	Centennial Pool	
Canterbury Progress League	1918	(built)	1950
Canterbury Promotion Council	1918	(re-building abandoned)	1971
Canterbury Provincial Council (see		(re-built)	1974
Provincial Council)		Centennial wing, Museum	1958

Chamber of Commerce			(bankrupt)	1866
(established)	1859		(drainage)	1866
(moves)	1863		(first building)	1887
(building)	1851, 1887		(cycle by-law)	1897
Chamberlain, Marise	1958		(second building)	1924
Channell, Ian Brackenbury	1973, 1988		(airport)	1935
"Charlotte Jane"	1850		(pensioner housing)	1939
Charters (Freedom of the City)			(FitzGerald statue)	1939
(RNZAF Wigram)	1957		(coat of arms)	1949
(HMNZS "Pegasus")	1965		(planning scheme)	1962
(2nd Battalion RNZIR)	1966		(urban renewal)	1966
(HMNZS "Canterbury")	1973		(Mona Vale)	1969
Chase, Captain	1809		(Hagley Park Rd.)	1970
Chateau Commodore (Regency) Hotel	1975		(election)	1971
Chatham Islands	1940		(neighbourhoods)	1979
Chess	1866		(Civic Offices)	1980
Cheviot	1901		(nuclear-free zone)	1982
Chief Post Office (see Post Office)			(see also Airport, MED,	
Children's library	1924		mayors)	
China (Rewi Alley)	1926, 1987		(amalgamation)	1989
(Vice Premier)	1980		(final meeting)	1989
(Premier)	1983		Christchurch Club (formed)	1856
(Gansu Province)	1983, 1988		(building)	1861
(Vice Governor, Gansu)	1983		Christchurch Cricket Club	1851
(Premier)	1988		Christchurch Domains Board	
("Buried Army")	1986		(formed)	1873
Cholmondeley, Hugh Herber	1925		(statue)	1939
Colmondeley Home	1925		(abolished)	1946
Commerce (see Industry and commerce)			Christchurch, Dorset	1975
Choral music (see Music)			Christchurch Drainage Board	1876
Christchurch (site)	1849		(see also Drainage)	
(survey)	1850		Christchurch Fire Board	1907
(city)	1856		Christchurch Gas Company	1863
(Council)	1862		Christchurch Girls High School	
(Greater)	1903		(begins)	1877
(centennial)	1950		(university graduates)	1881
Christchurch Amateur Swimming Club	1880		Christchurch Golf Club	1873
Christchurch Beautifying Association			Christchurch Hospital (see Hospitals)	
(Victoria Square)	1897		Christchurch International Airport -	
(FitzGerald statue)	1939		(see Airport)	
Christchurch Boys High School			Christchurch Municipal Council	1862
(begins)	1881		Christchurch Operatic Society	1938
(rowing)	1913		Christchurch Polytechnic	1906
Christchurch Canal League	1908		Christchurch Regional Planning	
Christchurch Cathedral			Authority (see Regional Planning	
(foundation)	1864		Authority)	
(site)	1873		Christchurch School of	
(dedicated)	1881		Instrumental Music	1955
(earthquake)	1881, 1888, 1901		Christchurch Teachers College	
(completed)	1904		(Normal School)	1877
(Hickson mission)	1923		(llam)	1970
(spire height)	1983		"Christchurch Times" (new name)	1929
Christchurch City Council			(ceases)	1935
(established)	1862		Christchurch Tramway Board	
(artesian well)	1864		(formed)	1903
(swans)	1864		(diesel buses)	1936

Daniell, Captain E	1841	(postal centre)	1981
Davis Cup	1912	(Springboks)	1981, 1985
Deaf (School for the)	1880	(farmers)	1985
(Games)	1989	(tower)	1987, 1988
Deans Bush (fire)	1851	(Wizard)	1988
(preservation)	1854	(gondola)	1989
(to City)	1914	(see also Strikes and Riots)	
Deans, John (lands sheep)	1843	District Nursing Association	1896
(death)	1854	Dobson, Sir Arthur Dudley	1864
Deans, Bob	1905	Dobson, George	1866
Deans, Robbie	1983	"Dolphin"	1939
Deans, William (first visit)	1842	D'oyly Carte Opera Company	1979
(settles)	1842	Domains Board (see Christchurch	
(exotic tree)	1846	Domains Board)	
(death)	1851	Donnithorne, Don	1982
(Hagley Park)	1855	Drainage (scheme abandoned)	1866
(watercress)	1857	(Board)	1876
"Deborah"	1844	(sewer)	1879
Denmark, Queen of	1987	(pumping station)	1882
Densem, John	1989	Drama (see Theatre and drama)	
Destructor, municipal (opens)	1902	Dredge	1912
(electricity)	1903	Draw, John	1935
Diamond, Neil	1976	Drought	1988
DIC	1908	Drownings (Lyttelton Harbour)	1851
Dickson, Captain Euan	1920	(Avon)	1851
"Discovery"	1901	(3 men)	1887
Disputes, debates and disagreements		(yacht race)	1951
(Godley)	1849	"Duke of Bronte"	1851
(tunnel)	1861	Duncan, P and D	1865
(hospital)	1862	Dunedin (railway)	1878
(temperance)	1863	(telephone)	1887
(South Island separation)	1865	(air service)	1930
(ratepayers)	1866	Dunedin Highland Pipe Band	1906
(Cathedral site)	1873	"Dunera"	1940
(University site)	1874	Durham Street bridges	1977
(Catholic/Protestant)	1879	Durham Street Methodist Church	1864
(Midland line)	1885	Dux de Lux Tavern	1989
(Bickerton)	1902		
(Deans "try")	1905		
(Estuary port and canal)	1908		
(Maori land compensation)	1920		
(nurses home)	1931	"Earth and Sky"	1971
(newspaper war)	1935	Earthquakes	1869, 1881, 1888, 1901
(FitzGerald statue)	1939	Edger, Kate	1881
(art controversy)	1948	Edinburgh, Duke of	1869, 1954, 1963, 1968
(master transportation plan)	1962		1970, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1981, 1986
(Town Hall site)	1962	Edmonds Band Rotunda (open)	1929
(Rolleston Avenue trees)	1964	(carnival)	1933
(fluoridation)	1965	Education	
(Hagley Park road)	1970, 1971	(first school)	1851
(Vietnam)	1971	(Christ's College)	1852
(Commonwealth Games venue)	1971	(Mechanics Institute)	1859
(Wizard)	1973	(report)	1863
(Rolleston)	1973	(Catholic)	1865
(Friendship Comer)	1978	(Hagley High)	1865
(orchestra)	1978	(University)	1874
		(library)	1875

	(Anniversary at)	1988	"Fly"	1848
Fever	("Brothers Pride")	1863	Foley, Mr and Mrs	1857
	("Christchurch")	1875	Fort Jervois	1888
Fire Brigade	(formed)	1860	Foulds, Mary Ellen	1986
	(steam engine)	1865	Four Avenues School	1975
	(Fire Board)	1907	Fox, William	1848
Fire ordinance		1867	Franking machine	1904
Fires	(Canterbury Plains)	1300s	Fraud ("Severed Hand")	1885
	(Riccarton Bush)	1851	("Temple of Truth")	1891, 1897
	(brewery)	1861	Freedom of the City (see Charters)	
	(Colombo Street)	1864	Free kindergarten	1912
	(Armagh/Colombo Street)	1866	Freezing works	1883
	(Port Hills)	1868	French settlers	1840
	(Lyttelton)	1870	"Friedelburg"	1872
	(Town Halls)	1873	Friendship Comer	1978
	(Linwood)	1896	Frost, heaviest	1872
	(Peninsula)	1898	Frost (Coldest September)	1988
	(Australian bush)	1898	Fun run	1975
	(Port Hills)	1907		
	(Antigua boatsheds)	1907		
	(Stranges)	1908		
	(Cafe Continental)	1909	Gabriel's Gully	1861
	(Ilam homestead)	1910	Galaxy, Lockheed	1974
	(Exhibition Hall)	1917	Gallipoli	1915
	("Cashmere" mansion)	1946	Gansu Province, China	1893, 1988
	(Ballantynes)	1947	Garrett, H.L.	1960
	(Little Theatre)	1953	Gas (Christchurch Gas Co.)	1863
	(Clifton Hill)	1973	(street lights)	1864
	(Addington showgrounds)	1975	(night cycle racing)	1897
	("Kempmaan")	1978	(closure)	1982
	(Regent Theatre)	1979	Gebbie, John and family	
	(Open)	1984	(settle)	1843
	(Port Hills)	1989	(farm)	1845
Firestone Tire and Rubber Company		1949	George V, King	1901
First aid examinations		1884	George VI, King	1927
"First four ships"		1850	German settlers	1872
Fish		1867	"Giselle"	1975
Fisherton		1907	Glenmark	1866
Fitzgerald, A.E.		1894	Gliders	1911
FitzGerald, J.E.	(editor)	1851	"Globe"	1874
	(Superintendent)	1853	Gloucester, Duke of	1935
	("Press")	1861	Gloucester, Duke and Duchess of	1985
	(statue)	1939	Glue, W.P.	1941
Floods	(Avon)	1868	Glover, Dennis	1935
	(City centre)	1886	Godley Head lighthouse	1865
	(Avon-drownings)	1887	Godley, John Robert	
	(Canterbury)	1908	(Wakefield)	1847
	(Easter)	1938	(arrives)	1850
	(twice in one year)	1945	(religious discrimination)	1851
	("Wahine" storm)	1968	(returns)	1852
	(record rain)	1974	(statue)	1867
	(widespread evacuations)	1977	Gold rushes (Australian)	1852
	(City North)	1986	(Gabriel's Gully)	1861
Floral clock		1953	(West Coast)	1865
'Flu epidemic		1918	"Golden Plough"	1967
Fluoridation		1965	Golf	1873

Gondala Proposal		1989	(amalgamation)	1968
Gordon, G		1862	Halswell "horse fiend"	1898
Gould, George		1851	Halswell tornado	1983
Government Life Building		1964	"Hamlet"	1942
Government Gardens		1864	Hansom cab	1864
"Governor Bligh"		1815	Harbour (see Lyttelton Harbour)	
Governors Bay		1925	Harewood Aerodrome (see Airport)	
Graham, Rev. Billy		1959	Harman, R.D	1909
Gramophone		1891	Harper, Leonard and Co	1893
Graving dock		1883	Hart, G.A.J	1939
Gray, J.H		1973	Harvesters	1877
Great Exhibition		1922	Haskins, F.T	1875
"Greenpeace" Ship		1985	Hay, Ebenezer and family	1843, 1851
Grecian temple		1897	Hay, Sir Hamish G	1982, 1986, 1989
Green, R.E		1939	Heathcote County (formed)	1910
Greenwood brothers	(settle)	1843	(part to City)	1911
	(robbery)	1846	(part to City)	1953
Grenadier Hotel		1886	(Amalgamation)	1989
Grey, Sir George		1849	Heathcote River (exploration)	1841
Grono, Captain John		1815	(watercross)	1857
"Group, The" (formed)		1927	Heifetz, Jascha	1921
(controversy)		1948	Hempleman, Captain George	
Gustaf, King Carl		1989	(whaling)	1836
Guthardt, Rev. Dr. Phyllis	1959, 1984		(shore station)	1837
Guthrey, A.R		1971	Henderson, Louise	1927
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Haast, Sir Julius von	(moa bones)	1866	Herriot, James (settles)	1840
	(museum)	1867	(abandons farm)	1841
Hadlee, Richard		1988	"Heroine"	1838
Hagley Park			Herzog, Dr Chaim	1986
(settlement)		1847	Hickson mission	1923
(first sports)		1851	High rise building	1964
(ordinance)		1855	Hill, Alfred	1906
(hospital)		1862	Hill, C.M	1919
(acclimatisation)		1867	Hockey (N.Z. Association)	1902
(golf)		1873	(gold medal)	1976
(railway meeting)		1885	Hodgkins, Frances	1948
(exhibition and railway)		1906	Hokitika	1866
(City boundary)		1922	Holland, Sir Sydney G	1949
(nurses home)		1931	"Holly Lea"	1900
(daffodils)		1933	"Holmwood"	1940
(slit trenches)		1941	Hornbrook, Major Alfred	1849
(to City)		1946	"Horse fiend"	1898
(Blenheim Road extension)		1957	Horticultural exhibition	1852
(totem pole)		1959	Horticultural Society	1853
(road controversy)	1970, 1971		Hospitals (first established)	1862
(Moscow Circus)		1971	(Sunnyside)	1863
(Torville and Dean)		1985	(nursing school)	1891
Hagley High School		1865	(x-rays)	1898
Hail		1906, 1983	(Burwood)	1902
Hall, Sir John		1862, 1906	(leper colony)	1924
Halleys Comet		1910, 1985	(St Georges)	1928
Halswell County	(formed)	1910	(nurses home)	1931
	(part to City)	1955	(Princess Margaret)	1959
			(paraplegic sports)	1967
			("Test-tube" Baby)	1983
			("test-tube" twins)	1983

	("In Vitro")	1985	(Addington saleyards)	1874
	(Youngest Survivor)	1986	(Kaiapoi Woollen Mills)	1875
	(Redevelopment)	1987	(Andrews and Beaven)	1878
	(Record Births)	1988	(Canterbury Industrial Assn.)	1879
Hotels	(Mitre)	1849	(Industrial exhibitons)	1880, 1883
	(White Hart)	1851	(Lane, Walker, Rudkin)	1880
	(number of)	1866	(Belfast freezing works)	1883
	(Cafe Continental)	1909	(locomotive)	1889
	(Ramada Inn)	1974	(J. Ballantyne and Co.)	1891
	(Chateau Commodore)	1975	(bankruptcy)	1893
	(Noahs)	1975	(Metropolitan Cycle Show)	1897
	(Park Royal)	1988	(Para Rubber Company)	1909
	(Grenadier)	1986	(Canterbury Aviation Company)	1916
Hottest day		1973	(Radio Broadcasting Co. of N.Z.)	1925
Howard, Arthur		1885	(Caxton Press)	1935
Howard, Dame Mabel		1947	(Uriwins Industries)	1936
Hughes, Cecil		1922	(Millers Department Store)	1939
Hulme, Juliet		1954	(Saturday trading)	1946
Hulme, Keri		1985	(aerial topdressing)	1949
Huntsbury		1941	(machine tool show)	1970
"Husky"		1951	(Radio Avon)	1973
Hydro-electricity		1915	(gas works close)	1982
<hr/>			Influenza epidemic	1918
			Inter-island ferry (see Ferry)	
			Invercargill	1903
Icon exhibition		1980	Invercargill Garrison Band	1880
Ilam (homestead)		1910	"In Vitro"	1985
	(University site)	1949	Iran, Crown Prince Reza of	1978
	(University moves)	1975	Iran, Shah and Empress of	1974
Immigration barracks		1897	Isaac, Sir Neil	1987
Industrial action		1849	"Isabella Hercus"	1851
	(see also Strikes)		Islington Freezing Works	1899
Industrial Exhibitions		1880, 1883	Israel, President of	1986
Industry and commerce			<hr/>	
	(greenstone)	1675	James Hay Theatre	1972, 1986
	(trading)	1831	Japan, Crown Prince and	
	(whaling)	1835, 1836	Princess of	1973
	(shore station)	1837	Jazz (see Music)	
	(hotel)	1849	Jellie Park Pool	1960
	(Andersons Foundry)	1850	Jet flights, first	1965
	(bank)	1851	Jockey Club (meeting)	1851
	(Pyne, Gould Guinness)	1851	(formed)	1854
	(White Hart Hotel)	1851	Jogging	1975
	(flour mill)	1853	Jollie, Edward (arrives)	1849
	(Local Steam Navigation Co.)	1855	(survey)	1850
	(coal)	1855	Jones, John	1840
	(brewery)	1858	Joubert and Twopeny's Exhibition	1882
	(Chamber of Commerce)	1859	Jubilees (Queen Victoria)	1897
	(Christchurch Gas Company)	1863	(Canterbury)	1900
	(cab stand)	1863	Jubilee clock	1860
	(Chamber of Commerce moves)	1863	Jumbo jet	1972
	(Aulsebrooks)	1863	Jury forewoman	1960
	(hotels)	1866	<hr/>	
	(P. and D. Duncan)	1865		
	(meat preserving works)	1871		
	(N.Z. Shipping Company)	1873, 1883		

Kaiapohia (greenstone)	1600s	(rugby score)	1983
(pa)	1700s	(swimming pool)	1985
(skirmish)	1830	(U2)	1989
(massacre)	1832	Lancastrian	1947
Kaiapoi (land purchase)	1848	"Landfall"	1947
(boxing)	1862	"Landfall in Unknown Seas"	1942
(railway)	1872	Land Office	1851
(railway accident)	1905	Land Wars	1859, 1863
(Boy Scouts)	1908	Lane Walker Rudkin	1880
(Kirk)	1974	Langlois, Captain Jean	1840
Kaiapoi Woollen Mills	1875	Latimer Square (cycle race)	1869
Kaikoura Mountains	1796	(temple)	1897
Kai Tahu	1989	(slit trenches)	1941
Kapiti Island	1830	(Town Hall site)	1962
Karetai, Chief	1840	Law (Deans/Godley)	1851
"Kemphaan"	1978	(Supreme Court)	1852
"Kemp's deed"	1848	(illegal boxing contest)	1862
Kennel Club	1886	(Court of Appeal)	1863
Kent, Duke and Duchess of	1980	(bankrupt solicitor)	1893
Kerr's Reach	1950	(longest lawsuit)	1960
Keys, G.M	1926	Lee Kuan Yew	1975
Kindergarten	1912	Leper colony	1924
King Edward Barracks	1905	Library (see Canterbury Public Library)	
Kingsford Smith, Charles (radio)	1926	Library Chambers	1875, 1982
(landing)	1928	Lift, passenger	1905
Kipling, Rudyard	1891	Lift, exterior	1983
Kirk, Norman	1974	Lighthouse	1865
Kitchener, Lord	1910	Lilburn, Douglas	1942
Kiwi House (Opening)	1984	Lincoln College (opens)	1880
Kiwi, Sign of the	1917	(ploughing)	1967
Kohler's Pleasure Grounds	1865, 1867	Linguist	1876
Kohler, Richard Wildblood	1867	Linwood (Town Board)	1882
Kreisler, Fritz	1925	(Borough)	1893
Kurashiki, Japan	1974	(gorse fires)	1896
		(amalgamation)	1903
		(woman minister)	1959
		Litchfield, H	1928
		Literature (Samuel Butler)	1860
Labour Party, N.Z	1925	(Anthony Trollope)	1872
Labour Weekend	1985	(Mark Twain)	1895
"Lady Nugent"	1850	(James K. Baxter)	1907
Lamb Losses	1986	(George Bernard Shaw)	1934
Lancaster Park (opens)	1881	(Dennis Glover)	1935
(trotting)	1886	(Caxton Press)	1935
(rugby)	1888	(Noel Coward)	1941
(swimming pool)	1894, 1985	(Allen Curnow)	1942
(athletics)	1896	(Ngaio Marsh)	1942, 1982
(night racing)	1897	("Landfall")	1947
(balloonist)	1899	(Keri Hulme)	1985
(Plunket Shield)	1907	Little Theatre (opens)	1927
(Davis Cup)	1912	(fire)	1953
(Springboks)	1921	Li Xiannian	1980
(women's cricket)	1935	"Loan of a Lover, The"	1857
(Billy Graham)	1959	Lorraine, "Captain"	1899
(Snell)	1962	Lovell-Smith, William	1973
(record crowd)	1971	Lotto Sales	1987

Luck, Isaac	1861	(rowing)	1862
Luckner, Count Felix von	1918	(breakwaters)	1865
Lumley, G	1863	(birds introduced)	1867
Lyster's Royal Italian and English		(tsunami)	1868, 1960
Opera Company	1864	(electricity)	1882
Lyttelton (John Deans)	1843	(graving dock)	1883
(Tuckett)	1844	("Russian scare")	1885
(Thomas)	1848	(Battery Point)	1939
(Jollie)	1849	(mines)	1941
(Mitre Hotel)	1849	(strike)	1951
(Godley)	1850	(roll on/roll off)	1965
(settlers)	1850	(Cashin Quay)	1964
(Supreme Court)	1851	(ferries end)	1976
(school)	1851	(container crane)	1977
(Gould)	1851	("Kempmaan" fire)	1978
(choral classes)	1852	(biggest ship)	1982
(steamship)	1853	Lyttelton Harbour Board	1877
(McKenzie)	1855	"Lyttelton Times" (founded)	1851
(Chamber of Commerce)	1859	(evening paper)	1868
(Butler)	1860	(name change)	1929
(tunnel begins)	1861	(ceases)	1935
(telegraph)	1862	Lyttelton Town Hall	1857
(tunnel)	1867		
(fire)	1870		
(time ball)	1876		
(water supply)	1894	McCombs, E.R	1933
(maritime strike)	1890	McCormacks Bay	
(ferry)	1895	(causeway)	1907
(Boer War)	1899	(causeway widened)	1938
(first Scott expedition)	1901	(joins City)	1945
(Shackleton)	1908	McDougall Art Gallery (see Robert	
(2nd Scott expedition)	1910	McDougall Art Gallery)	
(dredge "Manchester")	1912	McDougall, Robert E	1932
(strike)	1913	McGillivray	1840
(W.W.I contingent)	1914	McKenzie, James	1855
(W.W.I wounded)	1915	McKenzie, Sir John	1943
(rail electrified)	1929	McKinnon, Malcolm	1840
(woman M.P.)	1933	McLean's mansion	1900
(W.W.II troops)	1940	McLeod, Jenny	1971
("Holmwood")	1940	McMillan-Brown, Mrs	1881
(road tunnel contract)	1961	McWilliams, T	1928
(road tunnel)	1964	Mahey, Margaret	1983
(Kirk)	1974	Mahoney, Maurice	1972, 1982
(time ball restored)	1978	Mail service (see Postal service)	
(tunnel tolls)	1979	Majestic Theatre	1930
Lyttelton Harbour		"Makatoa"	1867
(Port Cooper)	1827	Malthouse	1965
(Cook's Harbour)	1830	Malvern County	1910
("Vittoria")	1831	Malvern Hills	1855
(Maori war party)	1833	"Manchester"	1912
(whaling)	1835	Manson, Samuel and family	
(Greenwoods)	1843	(settle)	1843
(settlers)	1850, 1851	(farm)	1844
(drownings)	1851	Manson, Jeannie	1844
(storm)	1851	Manson, Roger	1989
(rabbits introduced)	1852	Maori (feud)	1825-28

(population)	1832	(Civic Offices)	1980
(canoe)	1891	Military (see Armed Forces)	
(artifacts)	1899	Mines	1941
(new reserves)	1906	Mini roundabout	1975
(college)	1909	Ministry of Transport	
(compensation)	1920	(traffic enforcement)	1969
(Rehua meeting house)	1960	(parking enforcement to city)	1983
(national marae)	1980	Mitre Hotel	1849
(remains discovered)	1988	Moa	1500s
(land claim)	1989	Moa Bone Point	1872
(see also moa hunters, Ngai Tahu, Ngati Mamoe, Ngati Toa, Waitaha)		Moa bones	1866
Marae, national	1980	Moa hunters	1000s
Margarette, Queen	1987	"Monarch"	1850
Maritime strikes	1890, 1913, 1951	Mona Vale	1969
Marjai, Dr Juzet	1986	Montgomery, Viscount Bernard	1947
Market Square (see Victoria Square)		Moore, Ronnie	1928
Marlborough	1855	Moorhouse, William Sefton	
"Marra"	1851	(Superintendent)	1859
Marriage (first European)	1850	(second term)	1866
(criticism of)	1902	(statue)	1885
Marsh, Dame Ngaio ("Hamlet")	1942	"Morning"	1902
(death)	1982	Morrell, Captain Benjamin	1830
Mary, Queen	1901	Mortimer, Greg	1984
Maude, Nurse Sybilla	1896	Moscow Circus	1971
Mauger, Ivan	1928	Motor car (first)	1899
Mayors (Wilson)	1868	(violation)	1900
(Wigram)	1903	(A.A.)	1903
(Hall)	1906	(gymkhana)	1905
(Taylor)	1911	(petrol station)	1928
(Archer)	1925	(Lady Wigram)	1949
(Macfarlane)	1938	(tyre manufacture)	1949
(Andrews)	1950	(parking meters)	1955
(Guthrey)	1971	(parking building)	1965
(Pickering)	1971	(traffic computer)	1969
(Hay)	1982	(enforcement)	1969
(Buck)	1989	(road accidents)	1973
Meals on wheels	1951	(TV monitors)	1977
Meat preserving works	1871	("Roadshow")	1982
Mecca petrol station	1928	(speed limit)	1985
Mechanics Institute	1859	Mountfort, Benjamin Woolfield	
MED (see Municipal Electricity Department)		(Christchurch Club)	1861
Medical Association	1865	(Provincial Council)	1865
Melba, Dame Nellie	1903	(Museum)	1870
Melbourne	1951	(University)	1877
Memorial Avenue	1959	(Trinity Church)	1974
Menuhin, Yehudi	1935	Mt Cavendish Reserve	1889
"Mermaid"	1796	Mt Cook	1894
Methodist Church (Durham Street)	1864	Mt Herbert County	1910
(woman minister)	1959	Mt Pleasant (joins City)	1943
Metro refuse	1981	(valley)	1962
Midland line	1885	Mt Vernon	1984
"Milestones"	1928	Municipal Electricity Department	1903
Millers Department Store		(building)	1939
(built)	1939	Municipal refuse destructor	1902, 1903
		Municipal tepid baths (open)	1908
		(close)	1947

Murder (see Crime)		(bees)	1852
Museum (see Canterbury Museum)		Netball	1912
Museum of Transport and Technology	1956	New Brighton (tramway)	1887
Music		(pier)	1894
(choral classes)	1852	(Borough)	1897
(Canterbury Musical Society)	1860	(joins City)	1941
(Canterbury Music Theatre)	1861	(Saturday trading)	1946
(first opera)	1864	(trotting course)	1963
(competitions, choral & band)	1880	(pier demolished)	1965
(Woolston Brass Band)	1883	(mall)	1978
(first phonograph)	1891	New Music Hall	1861
(Bicycle Band)	1895	New Regent Street	1932
(Dame Nellie Melba)	1903	New York Philharmonic Orchestra	1974
(Paderewski)	1904	New Zealand Army (see Armed Forces)	
(first professional orchestra)	1906	New Zealand Army Band	1974
(pipe band contest)	1906	New Zealand Boxing Association	1902
(Jascha Heifetz)	1921	New Zealand Company	
(Fritz Kreisler)	1925	(“Kemp’s Deed”)	1848
(band rotunda)	1929	(Akaroa)	1849
(Yehudi Menuhin)	1935	(Canterbury)	1849
(Christchurch Operatic Society)	1938	New Zealand Constitution Act	1852
(Primary schools festival)	1939	New Zealand Cricket Council	1894
(Centennial music festival)	1940	New Zealand Hockey Association	1902
(Noel Coward)	1941	New Zealand International	
(“Landfall in Unknown Seas”)	1942	Exhibition	1906
(women’s pipe band)	1947	New Zealand Metropolitan	
(School of Instrumental Music)	1955	Cycle Show	1897
(Louis Armstrong)	1963	New Zealand Miniature Rifle Assn	1924
(Beatles)	1964	New Zealand Shipping Co.	
(Pan Pacific Arts Festival)	1965	(registered)	1873
(Inia Te Wiata)	1965	(steam)	1883
(“Porgy and Bess”)	1965	Newspapers (“Lyttelton Times”)	1851
(Sir Malcolm Sargent)	1965	(“Press”)	1861
(Pan Pacific Arts Festival)	1968	(“Star”)	1868
(“Earth and Sky”)	1971	(“Globe”)	1874
(Army Band)	1974	(“Telegraph”)	1874
(Leonard Bernstein)	1974	(“Truth”)	1874
(New York Philharmonic Orch.)	1974	(“Evening News”)	1874
(Neil Diamond)	1976	(“Sun”)	1914
(Dame Joan Sutherland)	1976	(“Christchurch Times”)	1929
(David Bowie)	1978	(newspaper war)	1935
(Orchestra dispute)	1978	(“Star-Sun”)	1935
(“Count” Basie)	1979	Nga Hau E Wha national marae	1980
(D’oily Carte Opera Company)	1979	Ngai Tahu (move south)	1600s
(“Roadshow”)	1982	(settlements)	1700s
(U2)	1989	(civil war)	1825-28
Mutiny	1851	(skirmish)	1830
M.W.Arcade	1912	(Kaiapohia)	1832
		(Taiaroa)	1833
		(“Kemp’s Deed”)	1848
		(new reserves)	1906
		(compensation)	1920
		(land claim)	1989
National Council of Women	1896	Ngati Mamoe	1500s
National Sports Training Centre	1981	Ngati Toa (skirmish)	1830
Neale, Neta	1953	(Kaiapohia)	1832
Neighbourhood committees	1979		
Nelson (colonists)	1849		

"Nimrod"	1908	Parkhouse, Janie	1974
Noah's Hotel	1975	Parking building	1965
Normal School (training college)	1877	Parking enforcement	1983
(speech classes)	1930	Parking meters	1955
(preservation)	1981	Parklands, Snake	1984
Northern motorway	1967	Park Royal Hotel	1988
North Linwood	1911	Park Terrace murder	1871
North Richmond	1914	Parr, George	1864
"Novelty"	1868	"Partial impact" theory	1929
Nuclear weapons-free zone	1982	Pascoe, Paul	1960
Nurses home	1931	Pavlova, Anna	1926
Nursing School	1891	P.D.L. Group	1936
<hr/>		Peacock Springs	1987
Oates, Nicholas (first car)	1899	Pearse, Richard W	1953, 1956
(first violation)	1900	"Pegasus"	1809
Ohoka	1909	"Pegasus", HMNZS	1965
Okarito	1909	Pegasus Bay	1809
Olympic Games	1976	Peng, Li	1988
Onawe Peninsula	1832	"Penguin"	1895
One-way streets (first)	1969	Pensioner housing	1939
(completed)	1973	Peraki	1837
Opawa	1916	Perks, R.E	1955
"Open air" classrooms	1924	Petition - municipal district	1861
Opera (see Theatre and drama)		Petre, Francis William	1905
Operatic Society	1938	Petrol station	1928
Operation Deep Freeze	1955	Philosophy	1937
Orana Park	1976, 1984, 1989	"Phoebe"	1863
Orchestras (see Music)		Phonograph	1891
Orchestra classes	1955	Pickering, Neville G	1971
Orr, Jock	1988	Picton (railway)	1945
Otago (Taiaroa)	1833	(rail accident)	1947
(settlement)	1844	Picture theatres (see Cinema)	
(land purchase)	1848	Pigeon Bay	1840, 1843
(colonists)	1849	Pioneer Bicycle Club	1879
(gold rush)	1861	Pioneer Sports Club	1879
Otira tunnel	1923	Pioneer Sports Stadium	1978
Overbridges (see bridges)		Pipe bands (see Music)	
<hr/>		Plague hospital	1902
Paderewski, Jan	1904	Plastics	1936
Painting (see Art)		Play Centre	1941
Palmer, Geoffrey	1989	Pleasure Gardens, Wainoni	1929
Pan Pacific Arts Festival (first)	1965	"Pleasure Garden, The"	1948
(second)	1968	Pleasure Grounds, Kohlers	1865
Papanui	1923, 1949	Ploughing	1967
Papanui Bridge	1852	Plunket Shield	1907
Papanui bush	1300s, 1857	Poland (settlers)	1872
Paparua County (formed)	1910	(Paderewski)	1904
(amalgamation)	1968, 1989	Police (boxing match)	1862
Paparua Prison	1965	(volunteer)	1871
Paraplegic sports	1967	(taken over)	1877
Para Rubber Company	1909	(police station)	1973, 1983
Parker, Pauline	1954	Polio	1924, 1948
		Polish settlers	1872
		Pollution (drainage)	1866
		(Avon pool)	1877
		(air)	1975, 1977

Polo	1890	Public library (see Library)	
Pope John Paul II	1986	Public schools	1863
Popper, Sir Karl	1937	Pumping station	1882
Population: figures given for	1840, 1849	"Punch in Canterbury"	1865
	1862, 1866, 1876, 1919, 1959	Purachatra, Prince Prem	1977
"Porgy and Bess"	1965	Purau (Greenwood brothers)	1843
Port Cooper	1827	(robbery)	1846
Port Hills (strike)	1849	Pyne, Gould, Guinness	1851
(first vehicle)	1857	Pyramid Machines	1960
(road)	1857		
(fire)	1868		
(glider)	1911		
Port Victoria	1848	"Qin Shihuang" Exhibition	1986
Postal service (Lyttelton)	1857	Quail Island	1924
(Timaru)	1858	Quarantine (fever)	1863
(Post Office built)	1879	(leprosy)	1924
(Victoria Square)	1897	Queen Elizabeth II Park	
(franking machine)	1904	(bought)	1963
(airmail)	1921	(election issue)	1971
(P.O. preservation)	1981	(opens)	1973
(postal centre)	1981	(Commonwealth Games)	1974
Post Office (see Postal service)		(New Zealand Games)	1975
Pound	1897	(Diamond concert)	1976
Prams on buses	1942	(Bowie concert)	1978
Presbyterian Church	1857	(Nat. Sports Training Centre)	1981
"Press, The" (beginnings)	1861	Queen Mother	1958, 1966
(evening paper)	1874	Queens Theatre	1912
(building)	1909		
Price, W.H. and Son	1960		
Price Waterhouse Building	1988		
Prieur, Dominique	1985	Rabbits	1852
Primary Schools Music Festival	1939	Racing, horse (meeting)	1851
"Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, The"	1971	(first race)	1851
Princess Margaret Hospital	1959	(Jockey club)	1854
Princess Theatre (see Royal Princess Theatre)		(Riccarton)	1856
		(strike)	1913
		(see also Trotting)	
Prison (Victoria Square)	1897	Racing, motor	1949
(Paparua)	1965	Racing, speedway	1928
Procession, centennial	1950	Radio (Rutherford experiments)	1894
Prohibition (society)	1863	(Shelley)	1920
(local option poll)	1894	(Radio Society)	1921
Protest marches (Vietnam)	1971	(first broadcasts, 3AC)	1923
(Springboks)	1981, 1985	(Radio Broadcasting Co.)	1925
Protestant	1879	(3YA)	1926
Provincial Council		(sports broadcasts)	1926
(act)	1852	(all night)	1928
(first meeting)	1853	(state control)	1932
(town reserves)	1855	(G.B. Shaw broadcast)	1934
(river clearing)	1857	(Radio Avon)	1973
(town clock)	1860	(Radio Rhema)	1978
(education report)	1863	(Radio UFM)	1986
(buildings)	1865	Radio Broadcasting Company of N.Z.	
(road train)	1867	(formed)	1925
(abolished)	1876	(3YA)	1926
(University graduates)	1881	(taken over)	1932
(see also Superintendents)			

Radley	1945	Remedial teaching	1931
RAF	1953	Repertory Society	1928
Railcar	(first) 1926	Reserves (see town reserves)	
	(speed record) 1940	Rhodes, Captain William B	1839
Railway	(commission) 1854	Rhodes-Moorhouse, William B	1915
	(tunnel begins) 1861	Riccarton (Herriot)	1840
	(Ferrymead) 1863	(Deans)	1843
	(west and south) 1865	(road)	1851
	(to Rolleston) 1866	(Deans' death)	1854
	(tunnel opens) 1867	(reaping machine)	1857
	(gauge change decision) 1870	(harvesters)	1877
	(to Kaiapoi) 1872	Riccarton Borough (formed)	1913
	(to Timaru) 1876	(Mona Vale)	1969
	(gauge change) 1877	(amalgamation)	1989
	(station) 1877	Riccarton Bush	1300s, 1851
	(to Dunedin) 1878	(see also Deans Bush)	
	(Midland line) 1885	Riccarton House	1856
	(N.Z. locomotive) 1889	Riccarton Race Course (begins)	1856
	(Rakaia accident) 1899	(crash)	1919
	(to Invercargill) 1903	Richmond	1890
	(Kaiapoi accident) 1905	"Richmond"	1843
	(Hagley Park) 1906	Riots (Catholic/Protestant)	1879
	(to West Coast) 1923	("Temple of Truth")	1897
	(railcar) 1926	(Paparua)	1965
	(electrification) 1929	Ripapa Island (settlement)	1700s
	(speed record) 1940	(destroyed)	1825-28
	(to Picton) 1945	(Fort Jervois)	1888
	(Seddon accident) 1947	(von Luckner)	1918
	(Tangiwai disaster) 1953	Risingholme	1943
	(new station) 1960	RNZAF (see Royal New Zealand Air Force)	
	(last steam) 1971	Roads and streets	
	(anniversary) 1988	(workers strike)	1849
Rainbow Warrior	1985	(Riccarton)	1851
Rain, record	1974	(Bridle Path)	1857
Rakaia	1899	(Port Hills)	1857
Ramada Inn	1974	(West Coast)	1866
"Randolph"	1850	(road train)	1867
Ranfurly Shield	1983	(sealed streets)	1900
"Rangatira"	1979	(New Regent Street)	1932
Rapaki (settlement)	1700s	(Blenheim Road)	1957
(monuments)	1883	(Memorial Avenue)	1959
Reaping machine	1857	(tunnel contract)	1961
Redcliffs	1872	(transportation plan)	1962
Red Cross Society		(road tunnel)	1964
(meeting)	1916	(northern motorway)	1967
(meals-on-wheels)	1951	(one-way streets, first)	1969
Refuse destructor	1902, 1903	(road accidents)	1973
Regattas	1862, 1870	(Hagley Park)	1970
Regent Theatre (built)	1905	(one-way streets, completed)	1973
(fire)	1979	(mini roundabout)	1975
Regional Planning Authority		(closed circuit TV)	1977
(formed)	1954	(tunnel tolls)	1979
(transportation plan)	1962	(southern arterial)	1981
(merged)	1980	(see also Street lighting)	
Rehua Meeting House	1960	"Roadshow"	1982
Reio, Stanley	1988	Robbery	1846

Robert McDougall Art Gallery		Runcie, Dr. Robert	1983
(opens)	1932	"Russian scare"	1885
(Icon exhibition)	1980	Russley Golf Course	1957
(\$25m exhibition)	1980	Rutherford, Lord Ernest (enrolls)	1890
(Buried Army Exhibition)	1986	(radio)	1894
(Te Maori Exhibition)	1987	(Bickerton)	1902
Roller skating	1867		
Rolleston (railway)	1866	SAFE Air crash	1957
(railcar)	1940	St Albans (Borough)	1881
(new town announced)	1973	(amalgamation)	1903
(new town scrapped)	1975	(kindergarten)	1912
Rolleston Avenue trees	1964	St Andrews Hill	1943
Rolleston, William		St Andrews Presbyterian Church	1857
(Superintendent)	1868	St Georges Hospital	1928
(statue)	1906	St John, Order of	1916
Roll on/roll off loading	1965	St Martins	1917
Roman Catholic (see Catholic)		St Michael's Anglican Church	1872
"Roman Emperor"	1860	Salmon	1867
Rowing (club)	1861	Salvation Army	1891
(regatta)	1862	"Samarang"	1852
(Avon regatta)	1870	Sanitorium	1907
(inter-collegiate)	1913	"Sarah and Elizabeth"	1840
(125th anniversary)	1987	Sargent, Sir Malcolm	1965
Rose show	1871	Saturday trading	1946
Round Table	1953	Saunders, Marion	1930
Royal Christchurch Musical Society.	1860	Scandinavian settlers	1872
Royal Exchange Building	1905	Scheel, Walter	1978
Royal New Zealand Air Force		School for the Deaf	1880
(established)	1923	Schools (see Education)	
(Harewood)	1940	Scimitar Horned Oryx	1989
(charter)	1957	Scotland, J.W.H. (flight)	1914
("Kempnaan")	1978	(anniversary)	1964
(museum)	1979	Scott, George Gilbert	1904
Royal New Zealand Infantry		Scott, Captain Robert Falcon	
Regiment	1966	(first expedition)	1901
Royal Princess	1989	(second expedition)	1910
Royal Princess Theatre		(news of fate)	1913
(opens)	1863	(statue)	1917
(Theatre Royal)	1866	Scouts	1908
Royal visits 1869, 1901, 1920, 1927, 1935		Sea Elephant	1985
1954, 1956, 1958, 1963, 1966, 1968, 1970		Seager, S. Hurst (Council offices)	1887
1973, 1974, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1983		("Cashmere")	1946
1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989		Seattle	1981
Rubber goods	1909	Selwyn County	1910
Rudkin, Sarah and Alfred	1880	"Severed hand" case	1885
Rugby (Christ's College)	1853	Sewers (begin)	1879
(first game)	1874	(health)	1875
(Association)	1879	Shackleton, Sir Ernest	1908
(Lillywhite and Shrewsbury)	1888	Shand, Gwitha	1922
(Deans' "try")	1905	Share Market Crash	1987
(Springboks)	1921	Shaw	1840
(broadcast)	1926	Shaw, George Bernard	1934
(record crowd)	1971	Shelley, Professor James	1920
(protest march)	1981, 1985	Shipping (see Lyttleton Harbour)	
(record score)	1983		
(Ranfurly Shield)	1985		

Ship, biggest	1982	(joins City)	1921
Shirley	1945	Springboks (defeat)	1921
Silvia, Queen	1989	(protests)	1981, 1985
Sinclair, Captain Francis	1843	Springs County	1910
Singapore	1975	Stanley, Captain Owen	1840
"Sir George Seymour"	1850	Stanley, H.M	1892
Sister Cities		"Star" (begins)	1868
(Adelaide)	1972	("Press")	1874
(Kurashiki)	1974	("Star-Sun")	1935
(Christchurch, Dorset)	1975	Starlifter	1979
(Friendship Corner)	1978	State houses	1906
(Seattle)	1981	State Insurance Company	1974
(Gansu Province)	1983, 1988	State Trinity Centre	1974
Skating (roller)	1867	Statues (Godley)	1867
(Colosseum)	1908	(Moorhouse)	1885
Skellerup, G.W	1909	(Queen Victoria)	1903
Skellerup Woolston Brass Band	1883	(Rolleston)	1906
Slit trenches	1941	(Scott)	1917
Snakes	1984	(Cook)	1932
Smallbore Rifle Association	1924	(Civic war memorial)	1937
Smith, H.R	1901	(FitzGerald)	1939
Snell, Peter G	1962	"Steadfast"	1851
Snowstorms	1867, 1878, 1895, 1903	Steam train, last	1971
	1918, 1945 (record), 1988	Steam fire engine	1865
"Sobieski"	1940	Steamship	1853
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty		Steam Train (Anniversary)	1988
to Animals	1882	Stephenson, Professor Gordon	1962
Soccer	1890	Stewart, Captain	1830
Sockburn (abattoir)	1903	St Michaels Anglican Church	1987
(transfer station)	1981	Storms (Lyttelton Harbour)	1851
Sockburn Aerodrome (begins)	1917	(thunderstorm)	1865
(re-named)	1923	(Avon floods)	1868
Sofia, Queen	1988	(hailstorm)	1906
South Brighton bridge	1981	(southerly gale)	1924
Southern arterial road	1981	(wind, snow and rain)	1945
		(yacht race)	1951
		("Wahine")	1968
		(nor-west gale)	1975
Southern Ballet	1975	(Halswell tornado)	1983
"Southern Cross"	1928	Stranges Department Store (site)	1857
South Island Landless Natives Act	1906	(fire)	1908
South Island Separation Bill	1865	Street lighting (kerosene)	1862
SPCA	1882	(gas)	1864
"Specials"	1913	(turned off)	1866
Speech therapy	1930	(electric)	1915
Speed Limit	1985	Streets (see Roads and streets)	
Speedway	1928	Strikes (road workers)	1849
Spencer-Bower, Olivia	1927	(boot factories)	1885
Sport (first organised)	1851	(maritime)	1890
(broadcast)	1926	(waterfront)	1913
(paraplegic)	1967	("specials")	1913
(Commonwealth Games)	1974	(tramway)	1932
(Sportsman of the Year)	1974	(waterfront)	1951
(New Zealand Games)	1975	Strouts, Frederick	1874
(Nat. Sports Training Cent.)	1981	Summit Rd. (begins)	1908
(see also Cricket, Rugby, etc.)		(Sign of the Kiwi)	1917
Spreydon (Borough)	1911		

	(Ell's death)	1934	Takahe, Sign of the	(Ell)	1934
	(completed)	1938		(construction)	1942
	(Sign of the Takahe)	1949		(opens)	1949
Sumner	(Town Board)	1883	Tallest building		1983, 1988
	(Bells Baths)	1885	Tan, David		1983
	("Severed Hand")	1885	Tangiwai disaster		1953
	(tramway)	1888	Taranaki land wars		1859
	(Borough)	1891	Taylor, Richard		1974
	(water supply)	1894	Teachers College	(Normal School)	1877
	(Cafe Continental)	1909		(Ilam site)	1970
	(floods)	1945	Technical College		1906
	(joins City)	1945	Telegraph	(Lyttelton)	1862
"Sun"	(begins)	1914		(Bluff)	1865
	("Star-Sun")	1935		(West Coast)	1866
Sunbeam Kindergarten		1912		(Cook Strait)	1866
Sunday Trading		1989		(chess)	1866
Sunnyside Hospital		1863	"Telegraph"		1874
Superintendents	(FitzGerald)	1853	Telephone	(first)	1879
	(Moorhouse)	1857		(exchange)	1881
	(Bealey)	1863		(Dunedin)	1887
	(Moorhouse)	1866	Television	(first transmission)	1952
	(Rolleston)	1868		(CHTV 3)	1961
Supreme Court		1852		(live colour)	1974
Sutherland, Dame Joan		1976		(second channel)	1975
Swimming	(first pool)	1865		(traffic monitors)	1977
	(Avon pool)	1877		(Channel 3)	1989
	(club)	1880	"Te Maori" Exhibition		1987
	(Bells Baths)	1885	Temperance	(see Prohibition)	
	(N.Z. championships)	1886	Temperature	(heaviest frost)	1872
	(Lancaster Park)	1894		(coldest day)	1918
	(Australasian champs.)	1898		(record low)	1945
	(tepid baths)	1908		(record high)	1973
	(Gwitha Shand)	1922		(record variation)	1973
	(tepid baths close)	1947		(coldest September)	1983
	(Centennial Pool)	1950	"Temple of Truth"	(fraud)	1891
	(Jellie Park Pool)	1960		(riot)	1897
	(Waltham Lido Pool)	1967	Tennis	(club)	1881
	(Q.E.II)	1973		(Davis Cup)	1912
	(Commonwealth Games)	1974		(Wilding)	1915
	(Centennial re-built)	1974	Tepid baths	(open)	1908
Sydenham	(Borough)	1877		(close)	1947
	(amalgamation)	1903	Te Rauparaha, Chief	(skirmish)	1830
	(state houses)	1906		(Akaroa)	1830
	(Mabel Howard)	1947		(Kaiapohia)	1832
	(Norman Kirk)	1974		(Onawe)	1832
Sydenham Park		1863	Terrace housing		1876
Sydney	(dredge)	1912	"Terra Nova"		1910, 1988
	(flight)	1947	"Test-tube" Baby		1983
Symphony orchestra (see Music)			"Test-tube" twins		1983
			Te Wai Pounamu College		1909
			Te Wiata, Inia		1965
			Theatre and drama		
				(first)	1857
"Tahiti"		1914		(New Music Hall)	1861
Taiaroa, Chief	(war party)	1833		(Royal Princess Theatre)	1863
	("sells South Is.")	1840		(first Theatre Royal)	1866
Tai Tapu		1825-28			

(opera)	1864	(competition)	1879
(second Theatre Royal)	1876	(unofficial)	1905
(third Theatre Royal)	1908	(site chosen)	1962
(Shelley)	1920	(opens)	1972
(University)	1927	Town planning	1962
(Repertory Society)	1928	Town reserves (to be sold)	1855
(George Bernard Shaw)	1934	(last sold)	1858
(Operatic Society)	1938	Town sections	1851
(Noel Coward)	1941	Traction engine	1867
(Ngaio Marsh)	1942	Trades and Labour Council	1889
(Elmwood)	1948	Traffic lights (first)	1930
(Children's Theatre)	1952	(computer)	1969
("Earth and Sky")	1971	Training College (see Teachers College)	
(Court Theatre)	1971, 1986	Trams (steam)	1880
(James Hay Theatre)	1972	(New Brighton)	1887
(Theatre Royal preservation)	1980	(Sumner)	1888
("Roadshow")	1982	(Tramway Board)	1903
Theatre Royal (first)	1866	(electric)	1905
(second)	1876	(strike)	1932
(third)	1908	(last)	1954
(preservation)	1980	Transfer station	1981
Theatre Royal Charitable		Transport, Ministry of	1969, 1983
Foundation	1980	Tranz-Alpine Express	1987
Thomas, Captain Joseph (arrives)	1848	Trees (civic planting)	1863
(site)	1849	(Rolleston Avenue)	1964
(Godley)	1850	(storm damage)	1975
(Hagley)	1855	Treffers, Mark	1974
3AC, radio	1923	Trentham	1920
3YA, radio	1926	Trinity Church	1974
Thunderstorm	1865	Trolley buses (first)	1931
Thyssen Bornemisza exhibition	1980	(last)	1956
Tidal waves	1868, 1960	Trollope, Anthony	1872
Timaru (mail service)	1858	Trotting (first)	1886
(coach)	1863	(Addington)	1899
(railway)	1876	(Interdominion)	1938
(cycle race)	1906	(Conference)	1950
Time ball station	1876, 1978	Trout	1867
"Tinder Box, The"	1952	Trudeau, Pierre	1970
Tod, William	1845	"Truth"	1874
"Tolaga Bay"	1982	Tsunami	1868, 1960
Torlesse, Charles	1848	Tuahiwi Marae	1989
Tornado	1983	Tuckett, Frederick	1844
Torville and Dean	1985	Tuhawaiki, Chief	1840
Total Abstinence Society	1863	Tulloch, Jamie	1987
Totem Pole (carved)	1959	Tunnel, rail (Moorhouse)	1857
(moved)	1980	(opposition)	1861
Tourist Tower	1987	(begins)	1861
Town Clerk (first)	1862	(opens)	1867
(record service)	1875	(railcar)	1926
Town clock	1860	Tunnel, Otira	1923
Town Halls (first)	1857	Tunnel, road (see Roads and streets)	
(Mechanics Institute)	1859	Tupou IV, King	1979
(second)	1864	Twain, Mark	1895
(earthquake)	1869	Typhoid fever	1875
(destroyed)	1873	Tyres	1949
(terrace houses)	1876		

U2	1989	(beautifying)	1897
UFM Radio	1989	(statue, re-naming)	1903
Ulm, C	1928	(Town Hall site)	1962
United Council (see Canterbury United Council)		(Tower)	1987, 1988
United States Navy		(Amphitheatre)	1988
(Operation Deep Freeze)	1955	(Park Royal)	1988
(Lockheed Galaxy)	1974	(Redesigned)	1989
(Starlifter)	1979	Victoria Street (Closure)	1983
Union Airways	1936	Vietnam War (protests)	1971
Union Bank of Australia	1851	(refugees)	1977
University (opens)	1874	"Vittoria"	1831
(building)	1877	Vocational guidance	1926
(women graduates)	1881	Volunteer Fire Brigade	1860
(Rutherford)	1890	Volunteer Police	1871
(radio experiments)	1894	Volunteers, military	1863
(Bickerton)	1902, 1929	Von Luckner, Count Felix	1918
(Ilam staff club)	1910		
(Shelley)	1920	Wagstaff, Henry	1869
(Popper)	1937	"Wahine"	1966
(library)	1948	"Wahine" storm	1968
(decision to move)	1949	Waikato land wars	1863
(television tests)	1952	Waimairi District (County) Council	
(theatre fire)	1953	(formed)	1910
(move completed)	1975	(part to City)	1953
(Arts Centre)	1979	(fluoridation)	1965
(Hight Library)	1983	(first insulation by-law)	1971
(youngest graduate)	1983	(becomes District)	1982
Upham, Charles Hazlett	1945	(amalgamation)	1989
Urban renewal	1966	Waimakariri River (boxing)	1862
Urwins Industries	1936	(flood)	1868
USN (see United States Air Force)		Wainoni Pleasure Gardens	1929
		Waitaha tribe	1500s
		Waitangi, Treaty of	1840
		Waitangi Tribunal	1989
		Waiwera County	1910
Vacation Hotel	1974	Wakefield, Edward Gibbon	
Van Asch College	1880	(imprisoned)	1827
Van Asch, Gerrit	1880	(meets Godley)	1847
Van der Velden, Petrus	1890	(Godley statue inscription)	1867
Veil, Mme Simone	1981	Wales, Prince of	
Velocipede	1869	1920, 1970, 1974, 1981, 1983	
"Venetian" carnival	1933	Wales, Princess of	1983
Victoria Bridge (built)	1852	Walker, John	1974, 1984
(re-built)	1864	Waltham Lido Pool	1967
Victoria Cross (Rhodes-Moorhouse)	1915	War (civil)	1825-28
(Upham)	1945	(Taranaki land wars)	1859
Victoria Park (opens)	1897	(Waikato land wars)	1863
(fire)	1907	("Russian scare")	1885
(murder)	1954	(Boer)	1899
Victoria, Queen (clock)	1860	(World War I)	1914
(jubilee)	1897	(World War I casualties)	1915
(statue)	1903	(Gallipoli)	1915
Victoria Square		(armistice)	1918
(floods)	1868	(World War II)	1940

("Holmwood" sinking)	1940	Wigram, Sir Henry F. (Mayor)	1903
(minelayer)	1941	(aviation)	1916
(trenches dug)	1941	Wilding, Captain A.F.	1915
(air raid shelters)	1942	Williams, Harold	1876
(V.E. Day)	1945	"Willochra"	1915
(V.J. Day)	1945	Willowbank Wildlife Reserve	1975
(Upham)	1945	Wilson, William	1868
Ward, Crosbie	1851	Wind, record	1975
Ward, Edward	1851	(see also Storms)	
Ward, Henry	1851	Winterbourn, Ralph	1931
Warren, F. Miles	1972, 1982	Wiseman, Captain William	1827
Watercress (Avon)	1857	Wizard, The	1973, 1988
(swans)	1864	Women (university graduates)	1881
Water polo	1892	(cycle club)	1892
Water supply (artesian found)	1862	(votes)	1893
(public well)	1864	(National Council)	1896
(Lyttelton)	1877	(school committee)	1904
(Sumner)	1894	(City Councillor)	1917
(City)	1909	(swimming record)	1922
(fluoridation)	1965	("The Group")	1927
(Restrictions)	1989	(first pilot)	1928
Watson, G	1881	(M.P.)	1933
WEA (see Workers Educational Association)		(cricket)	1935
Weld, Sir Frederick A	1855	(Cabinet Minister)	1947
Wellington		(pipe band)	1947
(Deans)	1842	(minister of religion)	1959, 1984
(Godley)	1850		1987
(soccer)	1890	(jury forewoman)	1960
(ferry)	1895	(bus drivers)	1979
("Battle of Featherston St.)	1913	(writers)	1982, 1983, 1985
(yacht race)	1951	(D.C. Judge)	1988
(Duke and Duchess)	1983	(Mayor)	1989
Wells, Mrs A	1917	Wood, Cecil	1926
Wentworth, W.C	1840	Wood, Rev Margaret	1987
Westland (part of Canterbury)	1853	Wool	1856
(gold rush)	1865	Woollaston, Phillip	1989
(telegraph)	1866	Woolston (Town Board)	1882
(coach)	1866	(Borough)	1893
(road)	1866	(amalgamation)	1921
(province)	1873	Woolston Brass Band	1883
(Midland line)	1885	Worcester Street Bridge	1851
(railway)	1923	Workers Educational Association	
Whale	1909	(begins)	1915
Whaling ("Mermaid")	1796	(country library)	1930
(first ships)	1835	Worthington, Arthur B	1897
(Banks Peninsula)	1836	Wynn-Williams, William	1866
(Peraki)	1837		
(population)	1840		
White Hart Hotel (begins)	1851		
(fire)	1908	X-ray	1898
Whitworth, Mrs Agnes Lucy	1981		
Wigram Airfield (Sockburn)	1923		
(trans-Tasman)	1928	Yachting	1951
(motor racing)	1949	Yaldhurst School	1904
(charter)	1957	Yaldhurst Transport Museum	1968

YMCA	(building)	1884
	(vocational guidance)	1926
	(remains discovered)	1988
York, Duke of		1927
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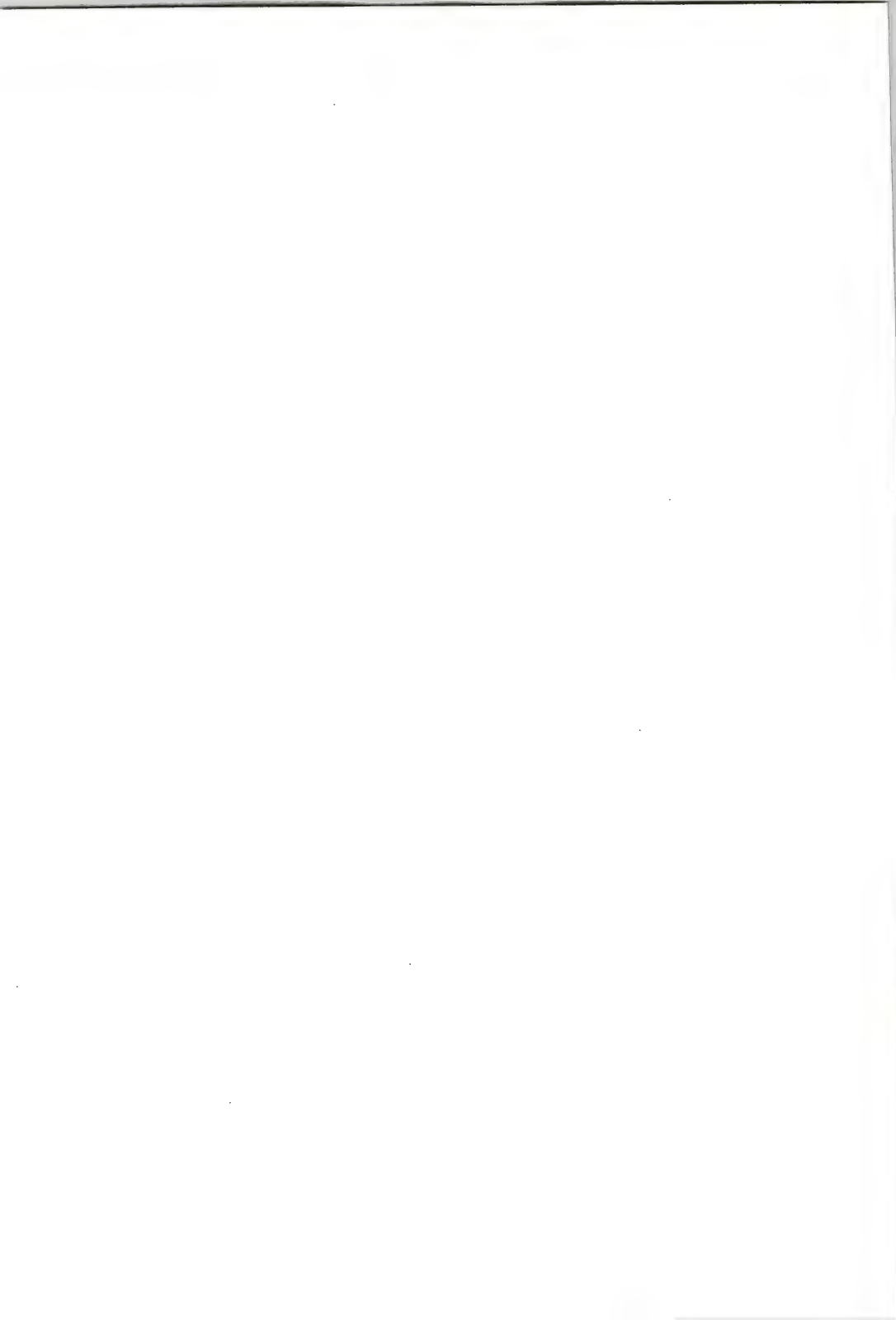
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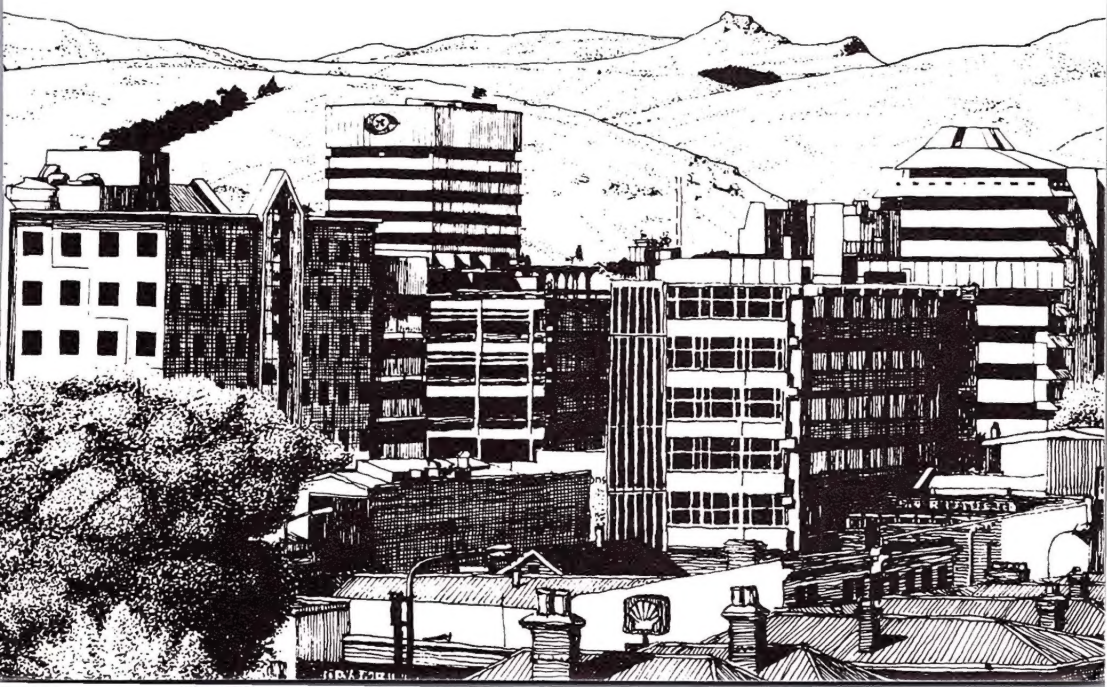
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